21/04/2020

**PPE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Dear member,

UNISON Yorkshire Ambulance Branch members are raising concerns around the conflicting advice being distributed from national bodies, particularly regarding Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Aerosol Generating procedures (AGP).

The National Resus Council Guidance advocates the donning of level 3 PPE when commencing cardiac chest compressions, listing this as an aerosol generating procedure, Public Health England however maintains level 2 PPE as sufficient. This appears to be based upon the availability of PPE rather than the safety of staff when dealing with COVID 19 patients.

UNISON insists the Trust introduce the Resus Council Guidelines to avoid confusion and to protect members.

Level 3 PPE must be made available to all members of staff dealing with COVID patients including PTS and volunteers.

UNISON Yorkshire Ambulance Branch will not accept members being put at risk due to a lack of PPE.

UNISON Yorkshire Ambulance Branch Committee