



# Intercollegiate General Surgery Guidance on COVID-19



## Emergency Surgery

- Test all for COVID-19
- Treat all as +ve
- CT thorax in last 24 hours
- Add CT thorax if having CT abdo



## Planned Surgery

- Risk assessment for COVID-19
- Greater risks of surgery
- Consent
- Risk-reducing strategies (e.g. stoma)



## PPE

- PPE for all laparotomies
- Unless COVID-19 negative (beware false negative)
- Include eye protection
- Practise donning & doffing



## Theatre



- Minimum staffing levels
- All staff PPE including visors
- Stop +ve pressure ventilation
- Smoke extraction
- Intubation / extubation in theatre



## Laparoscopy

- Generally should not be used
- Filters etc. difficult to implement
- Appendicitis: open / conserv.
- Cholecystitis: conserv. / cholecystostomy



## Endoscopy

- Emergency only
- Follow guidance from BSG
- Upper GI endoscopy requires full PPE



Full guidelines available:

