



Public Health  
England

Protecting and improving the nation's health

Health Protection Directorate  
Wellington House  
133-155 Waterloo Road  
London SE1 8UG  
T +44 (0)20 7811 7400  
[www.gov.uk/phe](http://www.gov.uk/phe)  
Yvonne.doyle@phe.gov.uk

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Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP  
Chair  
Health & Social Care Committee  
House of Commons  
London SW1A 0AA

**By email:** [hscocom@parliament.uk](mailto:hscocom@parliament.uk)

Dear Jeremy

### **Provision of PPE in Primary Care**

Following my attendance at yesterday's Committee Meeting, I committed to speaking to colleagues within the NHS and providing you with an update on when General Practitioners would receive adequate personal protective equipment (PPE).

Due to the response to COVID-19 the demand for PPE has been unprecedented. Supply chains have also been constrained and this has meant that many, including general practitioners have found it difficult to access appropriate PPE. In the immediate term the Government has made deliveries of PPE to all primary care providers. The Government has also been replenishing the usual wholesalers that support primary care. In addition, work is underway to operationalise a new delivery model which is scheduled to go live at the beginning of April. In the interim, the replenishment of wholesalers will continue to ensure supply of products is available. This will ensure that an increased number of customers can register, order and receive supplies of PPE with greater ease. In the meantime, the National Supply Disruption Response helpline is servicing any urgent needs in the short term.

Yours sincerely

**Yvonne Doyle CB MD**  
Medical Director and Director of Health Protection