Airway management and ventilation can generate aerosols, putting staff at risk of exposure.

To minimise the risk:

- Use **FULL PPE** for airway management (Full gown, FFP3 mask, gloves & eye protection) [1]
- Mask ventilation carries the highest risk to rescuer - Use 2 person technique [2]
- To protect the rescuers, priority should be given to inserting a supraglottic airway (SGA) (better) or cuffed endotracheal tube (ETT) (best)
- Place an appropriate filter which incorporates viral filtration between the airway (SGA or ETT) and the ventilation device (self-inflating bag or anaesthetic circuit)
- Not all Heat & Moisture Exchange (HME) filters have adequate viral filtration efficiency but could look similar. Check product labelling to confirm


With thanks to Dr Daniel Stephenson, Consultant at Rotherham Foundation Trust

[1] PPE additional considerations

For Safety Alerts and RCEM issued Safety Flashes see: www.rcem.ac.uk/SafetyAlerts