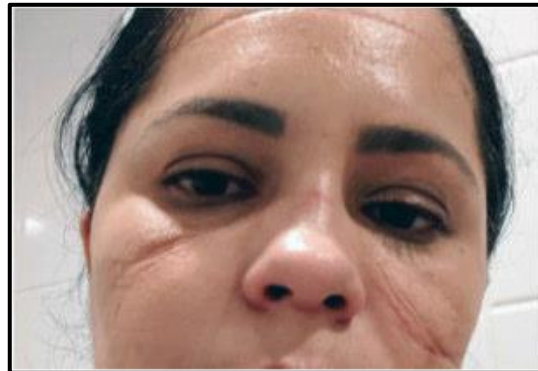


# Prevention and Treatment of skin breakdown associated with the use of facial PPE



## Prevention (Intact Skin)

Apply a moisturising cream twice daily (before and after work) to the affected areas (i.e. face and ears).

- Apply a **thin layer** of cream to clean and dry skin and massage in gently
- Apply cream at least **30 min before** using a face mask to ensure the skin is **completely dry**
- Avoid the use of make-up and remove excess facial hair

Stay well hydrated.

Offload pressure by removing and discarding the mask every 4 hours. Discard the mask in appropriate clinical waste.

Follow Trust Guidance on mask fitting. Avoid over tightening.

In addition if needed:

Apply a **Barrier Film or cream** to areas likely to become moist from sweat/ perspiration (i.e forehead)

- Allow 90 sec to dry
- Avoid using around the eye area and on the eyelids

Apply additional strips of silicone tape (i.e. Siltape or Mepitac)

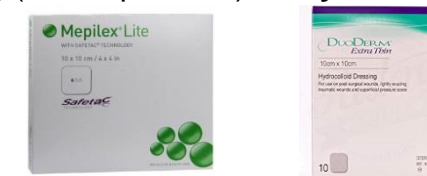
- A Barrier film can be applied under the tape to improve adherence if needed



## Treatment (Broken Skin)

If there is evidence of deep tissue injury (bruising) or open wounds, please report this to your manager and complete a DATIX incident form (health and safety > skin damage related to PPE) detailing type and make of mask.

Apply a thin foam dressing (i.e. Mepilex lite) or Hydrocolloid (i.e. DuoDerm Extra Thin)



- Cut dressing to size, leaving a 1cm border to the wound margin. The maximum wear time is 7 days.

- Alternate mask shapes (FIT tests are required for each) and consider a hood

**Repeat FIT testing is required after dressings have been applied**

Offload pressure by removing and discarding the mask every 2 hours.

For advice regarding hand hygiene and hand care please consult the Hand Hygiene Policy and the Prevention, Management and Treatment of Occupational Dermatitis Guideline available on the Trust Intranet.

**For further advice contact the Tissue Viability Team on Ext. 69207**

Ordering Code	Description	Brand
EYY039	Barrier film foam applicator no sting sterile 1ml	Cavilon
ELY563 ( 28g ) ELY536 ( 2 x 2g sachets )	Barrier cream	Medi Derma - S
ELY050 (10cm x 10cm )	Hydrocolloid dressing 10cm x 10cm	DuoDerm Extra Thin
EHR053 ( 2cm x 3m ) EHR054 ( 4cm x 1.5m )	Silicone Tape	Siltape
EHR041 ( 2cm x 3m ) EHR042 ( 4cm x 1.5m )	Silicone Tape	Mepitac
ELA184 ( 10cm x 10cm ) ELA185 ( 15cm x 15cm )	Thin-design foam dressing for low exuding wounds	Mepilex Lite