



Irish Thoracic Society Statement on Bronchoscopy: Pathway for Essential Bronchoscopy

- Bronchoscopy is considered an Aerosol Generating Procedure (AGP). Only essential staff should be present.
- Link: [HPSC Guidance](#)
- All endoscopy staff need to train in proper PPE use. Link: [HPSC Video Resources](#)

Essential Bronchoscopy:

Bronchoscopy and endoscopy units should now consider the reintroduction of essential non-urgent bronchoscopy

Factors that need to be taken into consideration include:

1. National social distancing protocols in relation to the endoscopy patient
2. Availability of endoscopy staff with loss of staff due to transfer, sickness and isolation
3. Isolation in unit pre-, peri-, and post procedure and deep cleaning of endoscopy room procedure
4. Availability of PPE with limitation to essential staff during procedure.

COVID-19 Swab pre-procedure:

- Local protocols may differ. A negative swab should not reduce vigilance and full PPE with FFP-3 mask should be worn regardless of swab result.
- Data regarding COVID-19 serology is limited at present and use in planning for procedures is unclear.

Other Information at:

<https://irishthoracicsociety.com/2020/03/2533/>

<https://aabronchology.org/2020/03/12/2020-aabip-statement-on-bronchoscopy-covid-19-infection/>

<https://www.ersnet.org/the-society/news/novel-coronavirus-outbreak--update-and-information-for-healthcare-professionals>

<https://www.brit-thoracic.org.uk/about-us/covid-19-information-for-the-respiratory-community/>

