



AEROSOL GENERATING PROCEDURE (AGP): FFP3 MASK FACE-FIT TESTING

In care home settings, if you have any residents undergoing Aerosol Generating Procedures, it is essential that your staff are fitted for FFP3 masks. The fitting process ensures that the staff member is wearing the correct size of mask and that they are able to get a proper seal.

The Fit-2-fit website lists accredited testers some of whom are based locally. Andy Thomson has supported some of our local providers.

<https://www.fit2fit.org/find-a-tester/>

This website lists companies who are able to train people to become fit-testers so that providers can be self-sufficient with their own face fit testing. Some may be able to run training locally if a number of providers wanted to organise this collectively.

<https://www.fit2fit.org/fit2fit-approved-training-providers/>

There are two types of fit test method - one's called qualitative and uses a hood and bitter tasting spray to check the seal of the FFP3 mask (subjective test and depends on the wearer's response). The kit for this costs a few hundred pounds and less training is required to be a fit tester using this method.

The other method is called quantitative and uses a portacount machine which detects special generated particles inside and outside the mask to see if there's a seal (not subjective and doesn't depend on the response of the user). The equipment for this (portacount machine) costs about £8000 and the training is much more in-depth. Both methods of testing are acceptable to the Health and Safety Executive.

The Qualitative (hood and spray) method is probably more suitable if individual providers are training up their own testers.