Aerosol Generating Procedures

Aerosol Generating Procedures (AGPs) can produce droplets <5 microns in size which may cause infection if they are inhaled. These small droplets, containing pathogens, can remain in the air, travel over a distance and still be infectious. AGPs procedures should only be carried out when essential. Where possible, these procedures should be carried out in well-ventilated single rooms with the doors shut. Only those healthcare workers who are needed to undertake the procedure should be present.

Aerosol Generating Procedures (AGPs) are defined as:

- Intubation, extubation and related procedures, for example manual ventilation and open suctioning.
- Cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
- Bronchoscopy.
- Surgery and post mortem procedures in which high-speed devices are used.
- Some Dental procedures (e.g. drilling)
- Non Invasive Ventilation (NIV) e.g. Bilevel Positive Airway Pressure Ventilation (BiPAP) and Continuous Positive Airway Pressure Ventilation (CPAP).
- High Frequency Oscillatory Ventilation (HFOV).
- Induction of sputum