

Appendix 1: Sampling strategy

This study used a combination of purposive and snowball sampling to recruit HCWs from a range of professional backgrounds. We targeted HCWs mainly from secondary and tertiary care centres within emergency, respiratory and critical care departments, including intensive care units (ICU), intensive treatment units (ITU) and high-dependency units (HDU). Participants included in our sample that were from primary care and community clinics were HCWs that had been redeployed or were awaiting redeployment to secondary or tertiary care centres. Our initial sample included 40 interviews. Purposive sampling allowed for six additional interviews to be included in the analysis in keeping with relevant emerging themes related to PPE and ethnicity.