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# Coronavirus: Three nurses who used bin bags due to PPE shortage ‘test positive for Covid-19’

Staff reportedly warned not to speak to press about lack of equipment

**Samuel Osborne** • Thursday 09 April 2020 12:50 BST • [... Comments](#)



Frontline staff at Northwick Park Hospital in Harrow were pictured wearing makeshift Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) amid a shortage of masks, gowns and gloves



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Three NHS nurses have reportedly been diagnosed with **coronavirus** after they were forced to wear bin bags due to a lack of protective equipment.

Frontline staff at **Northwick Park Hospital** in **Harrow** were pictured wearing the makeshift Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) last month amid a shortage of masks, gowns and gloves.

The three nurses in the photo were diagnosed with **Covid-19** last week, *the Daily Telegraph* reported.

A senior source at the hospital told the paper more than 50 per cent of staff had contracted the virus on one ward.

They said staff had been warned not to speak to the media about PPE shortages.

Last month, one of the nurses pictured told the paper: “We need proper PPE kit now, or nurses and doctors are going to die. It’s as simple as that.

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“We’re treating our own colleagues on the ward after they caught the virus from patients. How can that be right?

“There are so many younger people here on ventilation – many with asthma, or diabetes. They can’t stop coughing, they just cough and cough and cough and they can’t help it.

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“But there’s little we can do apart from try to help them breathe. Sometimes the body just gives up, and they die. We can’t save them.”



The three nurses in the photo were diagnosed with Covid-19 last week

They added: “There’s too many Covid patients coming in to cope with. We put on our brave smiles but inside we’re terrified.