

DAILY COVID-19 GUIDE

Updated 18 August 2021

IMPORTANT POINTS TO REMEMBER

- **Handwashing is essential!**
- **Wear your PPE correctly. Incorrect use of PPE may cause more harm than good and contribute to increased disease spread.**
Examples of WRONG USE of PPE:
 - Wearing the same pair of gloves for long periods of time enabling transfer of infectious material from one surface to another.
 - Wearing a mask for long periods may lead to contamination of the wearer's face if they rub their nose or eyes after their hand has touched the mask.
- **Do not reuse PPE – Masks, Disposable Aprons/Gowns, and Gloves; dispose safely after each client's visit**
- **Mask should only be worn by support worker ONCE (even if going back to the same client on the same day).**
- **Clients who are unwell with respiratory symptoms should be given a surgical mask to wear if they are able to tolerate this.**

RISK ASSESSMENT FOR PPE USE: WHAT TO WEAR, WHEN AND HOW?

Prior to, or the start of every visit, Support Workers should identify risk factors to determine appropriate PPE to use during the provision of care.

From 2 meters away, Support Workers must ask the following questions:

- Does the client or household member have: Cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, fever, runny nose or temporary loss of smell including fatigue?
- Have they been in contact with people in the last 2 weeks who are unwell with respiratory symptoms/fever AND/OR who have undergone testing for COVID-19?
- Has the client or household member attended any of the location of interests during the specified times AND/OR received a yellow notification from the NZ COVID Tracer app?
- Has the client or household member had any contact with a confirmed case of COVID 19 or are they being tested for COVID-19 themselves?

If Client said **YES** to **any** of the above questions:

- The Support Worker will apologise and leave. Support Worker will notify the coordinator. Support Worker will explain that the Care Manager will be in contact. Client should be encouraged to ring Healthline for further advice.

If NO:

- Perform hand hygiene
- Maintain physical distancing of 1 metre apart where practical
- Reinforce cough, sneeze etiquette and hand hygiene with Client
- Use PPE including a face covering

If less than 2 meters contact is required AND

- Client is close contact of a person with COVID 19 but **has no symptoms**

- SW must **wear surgical mask and gloves**, in addition to usual precautions.
- Perform Hand Hygiene
- Reinforce cough, sneeze and hand hygiene with client

- Client **has symptoms** OR is a suspected or confirmed case of COVID 19

- **Contact and Droplet Precautions: Surgical Mask, Gown, Gloves, Eye Protection**
- **Care Manager will be in touch to advise and provide further teaching for PPE.**
- Perform Hand Hygiene
- Reinforce cough, sneeze and hand hygiene with client

- **Visiting people in self-isolation:**

- If possible maintain more than 2m away
- Wear PPE including face covering
- Perform hand hygiene
- Reinforce cough, sneeze and hand hygiene with the Client
- Check that the Client has contacted Healthline or their GP

HOW TO DISPOSE OF PPE IN COMMUNITY

- Put used PPE in separate plastic bag, seal and then put it in the waste for disposal (general rubbish).