



Maidenhead Neuro Physio

Infection Control Policy for clients at home

7th March 2022 until further notice (guidance updated from governing bodies on 24.02.22)

What are the hazards?	Who is at risk?	Actions that can be taken	Who carries out the action?
<p>Respiratory infection for example the common cold, viruses, flu-like symptoms can be transmitted rapidly from person-to-person in close contact.</p> <p>Respiratory viruses are more prevalent in winter, but can occur at any time. In the vast majority of cases the infection is managed easily at home and does not prevent most daily activities. General health and medical history will affect recovery time and symptom severity.</p> <p>The policy here is to minimise risk by reducing face-to-face contact when symptoms are present.</p>	<p>Physiotherapist Patient Carer</p>	<p>Patient to cancel appointment if they feel unwell, for example bad cough, fever, flu-like symptoms.</p> <p>Physiotherapist to cancel all appointments and re-schedule them if unwell with respiratory infection.</p> <p>Hand washing before and after patient contact.</p> <p>Consider keeping a window open for good ventilation during the session.</p> <p>Patient and carer can wear face coverings during appointments, <u>if they wish</u>, in their own home.</p> <p>If aerosol generating procedures are ongoing in the setting (e.g., tracheal suction by a carer) physiotherapist PPE may be required, and will be determined by an individual risk assessment.</p>	<p>Patient Carer</p> <p>Physio</p> <p>Physio</p> <p>Patient Carer</p> <p>Patient Carer</p> <p>Physio</p>
<p>Other infectious diseases are far less prevalent in community settings but are considered during individual medical history taking.</p>	<p>Physiotherapist</p>	<p>Physiotherapist to maintain up to date health clearance with regard to safe working and scope of practice.</p> <p>Where infectious disease is known within the setting, patient to provide all relevant clinical information to inform face-to-face contact decision making.</p> <p>Where infectious disease is known within the setting, physiotherapist to individually risk-assess and decide</p>	<p>Physio</p> <p>Patient Carer</p> <p>Physio</p>

		<p>on specific PPE requirements, or decision not to treat. Inform patient of outcome.</p> <p>Strict hand washing before and after contact time.</p> <p>Liaison with other health professionals and agencies to ensure safe working and appropriate sharing of clinical information.</p>	<p>Physio</p> <p>Physio</p>
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NHS and private hospitals have their own guidance about the wearing of face coverings but they are no longer mandated in community and domiciliary settings.

There are many aspects to consider regarding the use of face coverings in non-infectious and non-surgical situations. These include, but are not limited to; significant difficulty hearing and understanding, loss of lip reading, loss of non-verbal communication strategies and the ability to show empathy. The lack of facial expression can be extremely confusing, sometimes upsetting, to all those with cognitive difficulties, processing difficulties, speech and language impairments, dementia, and those at the end of their life. These factors have all been considered for the cohort of neurological clients in non-healthcare settings, and is in line with CSP guidance.

Guidance from www.gov.uk and www.csp.org.uk from 24.2.2022.

Guidance from the HCPC was last updated on 20.7.2021 (Covid19 Hub – Advice- Adapting your practice in the community)