



Maidenhead Neuro Physio

Infection Control Policy for clients at home

28th June 2022 until further notice

Government guidance updated on 27th May 2022

| What are the hazards? | Who is at risk? | Actions that can be taken | Who carries out the action? |
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| <p>Common colds, viruses, and flu-like symptoms can be transmitted rapidly from person-to-person in close contact.</p> <p>In most cases, respiratory infections are managed easily at home and do not prevent daily activities. General health and medical history will affect recovery time and symptom severity.</p> <p>This policy 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>Face coverings are no longer advised in the 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 regarding 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 on specific PPE requirements, or</p> | <p>Physio</p> <p>Patient Carer</p> <p>Physio</p> |

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| | | <p>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>Shared equipment is very minimally used, if at all, in domestic settings. Any equipment used will be durable in nature (e.g.gym ball), and will be either disinfected after use using cleaning wipes, or washed at 60 degrees.</p> | <p>Physio</p> <p>Physio</p> <p>Physio</p> |
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NHS and private hospital employers may 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 on 27.5.22 and www.csp.org.uk from 24.2.2022 onwards.

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