

Covid-19 Risk Assessment for Face to Face treatment

The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, The Health Care Professions Council and the Scottish Government all state that EVERY patient is to be screened remotely BEFORE a face to face consultation can be arranged. Our risk screening will be repeated for EACH face to face consultation on the day of the appointment.

High Risk

- organ transplant
- chemotherapy/antibody/immunotherapy treatment for cancer
- intense radiotherapy for lung cancer
- targeted cancer treatment affecting the immune system
- blood or bone marrow cancer
- bone marrow or stem cell transplant in past 6 months or continued immunosuppressant medication
- severe lung condition eg. cystic fibrosis, severe asthma/COPD
- condition causing very high risk of infection eg. sickle cell
- taking medication causing higher risk of infection eg. high doses of steroids
- serious heart condition and pregnant

Moderate Risk

- age 70 or older
- pregnancy
- less severe lung condition ie not received NHS letter to shield
- heart disease
- diabetes
- chronic kidney disease
- liver disease
- neurological condition (eg. Parkinsons, MS, MND, CP)
- condition causing higher risk of infection
- taking medication that can affect the immune system eg. low dose steroids
- BMI of 40 or above

Covid -19 Screening

Currently or in the last 7 days have you (the client) experienced ANY of the following

- fever (temperature higher than 37.8 degrees)
- new or worsening persistent cough
- new or worsening shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- new loss of sense of taste or smell
- new or worsening chills, body aches, headaches or sore throat
- gastrointestinal upset (D+V)

Are you currently self isolating?

In the past 14 days have you or anyone in your household

- been in contact with a confirmed or probable case of coronavirus?
- returned from a country outside of the UK?

Have you or anyone in your household been identified as **high risk** or **moderate risk** from Coronavirus?

Should the patient answer yes to any of the above questions then they should be directed to follow NHS guidelines regarding Covid-19, the date of contact should be recorded and any face to face appointment should be delayed for a period of at least 2 weeks from this date - upon when they should be screened again. Meantime, the patient should managed remotely.

Any patient that develops Covid-19 symptoms whilst attending the clinic for a course of treatment is asked to inform their therapist immediately. The patients details will be noted and they will be directed to follow NHS guidelines regarding the development of Covid-19 symptoms.

The patient must be made aware that it is a criminal offence not to disclose information regarding Covid-19 symptoms on their screening form or to their therapist. The patient should be advised to inform their therapist immediately should they develop Covid-19 symptoms.

The patient must be made aware of all the current risks re Covid-19 with a face to face approach including the close contact that is required with a face to face appointment.

The patient should be provided with information as to how Covid-19 is spread and given the opportunity to raise any questions or concerns regarding Covid-19 and the clinic policy. This should be done and documented prior to the patient providing consent for face to face treatment.

It must be documented by the therapist that a virtual appointment is not indicated and why. The therapist must discuss and document why a face to face appointment is clinically justified.

The Health Rooms policy and procedures for patients attending the clinic for a Face to Face appointment must be explained and provided to the patient.

The safety measures that are in place to address the risk of Covid - 19 in attending for a face to face appointment should be explained to the patient and documented.

The infection protection control and cleaning processes, that are in place at the clinic, should be explained and provided to the patient before they attend for a face to face appointment.

Explain to patients attending for face to face appointment that they may be asked to wear a face mask / covering where appropriate.

Document any questions the patient raises related to Covid-19 and their treatment before they attend for a face to face appointment. Also, document the outcome of any questions.

Policy if a patient develops Covid-19 symptoms following a face to face contact at the clinic.

It must be made Clear to patients on the screening form that they must inform their therapist should they develop Covid-19 symptoms in the 7 day period after a face to face appointment.

If a patient informs the clinic that they have developed Covid-19 symptoms in the 7 day period after attending the clinic then they should be guided to follow NHS guidelines. Also, ALL PATIENTS WHO HAVE BEEN TREATED IN THE CLINIC AFTER THEM THAT WEEK MUST BE NOTIFIED. Patient confidentiality must be maintained when informing other patients. These patients should be informed that they don't need to self isolate unless they develop symptoms. They should be advised to follow NHS guidelines should they develop Covid-19 symptoms.

If a patient informs a therapist that they have developed Covid-19 symptoms in the 7 day period following a face to face consultation , the therapist must inform the other clinic staff. The therapist and other clinic staff DO NOT NEED TO GO INTO ISOLATION UNLESS THEY DEVELOP SYMPTOMS. IN THIS CASE they should follow NHS guidelines and self isolate for 2 weeks.