

DAILY COVID-19 GUIDE

Updated 22 April 2020

IMPORTANT POINTS TO REMEMBER

- **Handwashing is essential!**
- **Incorrect use of PPE may cause more harm than good and may contribute to an increased spread of disease.**
- **Examples of WRONG USE of PPE:**
 - Wearing the same pair of gloves for long periods of time may lead to 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.
- **Clients who are unwell with respiratory symptoms should be given a surgical mask to wear if they are able to tolerate this.**
- **Do not reuse PPE – Masks, Disposable Aprons/Gowns, and gloves**
- **Mask should only be worn by support worker ONCE (even if going back to the client same day).**

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

Prior to, or the start of the visit, support workers should identify risk factors to determine if PPE may be required during the provision of care.

From 2 meters away, Support workers can 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?
- Is the client or household member a suspected, probable or confirmed case of COVID 19?
- Has the client or household member had close contact with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID 19 in the last 14 days?

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.

If NO:

- Support worker to **wear a mask if they can't stay 2 meters away from client (e.g. Personal Care)**

*** Maintain physical distancing from client and household members of more than 2 meters away if possible (Household Management/Shopping visits)

If less than 2 meters contact is required AND

- Client is close contact of a person with COVID 19 but **has no symptoms**
- Client **has symptoms** OR is a suspected or confirmed case of COVID 19

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

- **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

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).