

28 May 2020

HEALTH UPDATE

New Zealand has progressed very well during Alert Level 3 and the Level 4 lockdown resulting in a low level of COVID-19 infection. However, the Ministry of Health still want to ensure that any suspected Covid case is identified and isolated as quickly as possible.

If you have flu-like symptoms

We are moving into a winter season with wetter and colder weather. This may bring about respiratory type illnesses that are not caused by COVID-19. If you experience any symptoms of runny nose, sore throats coughing, sneezing, fever along with any of the other symptoms listed on the website, please first contact your GP or Healthline. They will likely recommend you for a COVID-19 test. Please follow their instructions and complete the test – it is often free of charge (depending on location) when recommended by a GP.

It is extremely unlikely that you will have COVID-19, if you do, however, self-isolate and advise your coordinator immediately.

If it is confirmed you do NOT have COVID-19

If you have any of these symptoms and it is confirmed that you do not have COVID-19 please still contact your coordinator. We want to ensure symptoms are not spread to clients. Your coordinator will discuss with you the options for normal work.

Working with your clients

Most Support Workers are now working. Most clients are now receiving care, with more returning from isolation each day. Even though the nation is at Alert Level 2, and will probably move to Level 1 within the next month or so, there is still a need to use infection control measures, including physical distancing when possible, while carrying out care. If physical distancing is not possible, use appropriate PPE as recommended by the Ministry of Health.

VisionWest Home Healthcare has sufficient stock of all types PPE for all visits, so please contact your coordination office to arrange for a PPE pick-up or drop-off.