

COVID Safe Practice Guidelines

Do it with Purpose Occupational Therapy is committed to protecting all workers (including contractors and volunteers) and other persons who might be affected by the work (including clients, visitors, family members, carers and members of the public) against harm to their health, safety and welfare through the elimination or minimisation of risks arising from work. This includes:

- providing and maintaining a work environment that is without risk to health and safety
- providing adequate and accessible facilities for the welfare of workers to carry out their work, and
- monitoring the health of workers and the conditions of the workplace for the purpose of preventing illness or injury.

COVID-19 /SARS2019 virus potentially pose a significant risk to the health and safety of those to whom we have this health and safety obligation. As such we stay up-to-date with the current information provided by the government and other relevant bodies, particularly public health directions.

Some business operations are restricted under state or territory government public health directions. At this point in time, our business is not under operational restrictions (under the [Restrictions on Businesses, Activities and Undertakings Direction](#)), hence we are not required to have an approved COVID Safe Plan or Checklist. However, we choose to use the [Voluntary COVID Safe Checklist from the Queensland Government](#). Additionally, we are guided by the [In-home community workers advice - COVID 19](#) from the Queensland Government.

Specific extra measures which we put in place that relevant to our service provision include:

- We do not provide client services if our practitioners have symptoms of respiratory disease (fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath), nor if they have been exposed to potentially infected persons.
- We check with all clients before each visit to confirm they do not have respiratory symptoms (fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath). If they do have symptoms, we will not visit the client until it is safe to do so, on the advice of their medical officer.
- If a client has symptoms of a respiratory infection while we are providing a service, our practitioner will, leave straight away, clean their hands and then follow appropriate health check processes.
- Our Occupational Therapists clean their hands with soap and running water or an alcohol-based hand rub immediately before and after any direct contact with the client and before entering the client's home and immediately after leaving.
- Our Occupational Therapists use disposable gloves when handling equipment that have any client body fluids on them. We discard the used gloves in a bin after use and clean our hands straight away.
- When providing services, our practitioners follow standard precautions as outlined in the [Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare \(2019\)](#) and the [Queensland Health Interim infection prevention and control guidelines for the management of COVID-19 in healthcare settings \(PDF 942 kB\)](#).
- When required by government directions, our Occupational Therapists wear face masks. Otherwise, we ensure appropriate personal distancing, or the use of face masks at the preference of our clients.



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