

COVID Q & A

Can I treat a rotational worker after they receive a negative COVID test?

Yes, according to government guidelines a rotational worker who tests negative for COVID 19 after seven days and has no symptoms, no longer needs to self isolate and may enter public areas wearing a mask including medical appointments.

Can I treat the family member of someone who has travelled outside the province?

Yes, it is important to follow the COVID screening in regard to, if the family member was in close contact with the individual who travelled or if the family member that travelled is a rotational worker who has tested negative for COVID 19.

Can I postpone treatment to rotational workers?

Yes, a Therapist may choose to postpone treatment for rotational workers until after their 14 days of isolation is completed. We do however remind Therapists that this would be included in the most up to date COVID screening. No signage in any treatment area should be posted regarding refusal of treatment to any client or group of the public.

Why doesn't the CMTNL mandate RMTs to stop working in high COVID case areas?

The CMTNL is following all government guidelines regarding public health safety. Dr Fitzgerald and her team are the best ones to make those decisions.

If I am the spouse of a rotational worker or living with an individual that has travelled outside of the province, can I still treat clients?

Yes, according to government guidelines as long as you are not in close contact with an individual who has travelled outside of the province and you have no symptoms you do not need to isolate.

Can I refuse to treat a client that refuses to wear a mask?

Yes, any client that refuses to wear a mask for non-medical reasons should be refused treatment.

Can I refuse treatment to a client that is medical exempt from wearing a mask?

Yes, Therapists are not required to treat a client when the lack of mask by the client causes an increased risk for them.

Why are we not permitted to wear non-medical masks?

The goal of any workplace at this time and especially for health settings is to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID 19. Non-medical masks according to studies do not provide the same level of protection as a well fitted 2-3 ply medical masks.

For the general public, the Chief public health officer has recommended that non-medical masks should be 3 layers including a filter.

What if my employer isn't following the COVID guidelines and I feel my workplace is unsafe?

Every employee has the right to feel safe at their place of work. Any Therapist that has concerns regarding a workplace can reach out to the Covid Committee and we can offer assistance and will contact Workplace NL on your behalf anonymously if needed

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks/about-non-medical-masks-face-coverings.html>

<https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/individuals-and-households/self-isolation-and-self-monitoring/rotational-workers/>