

Infectious Disease (Including Coronavirus (Covid-19)) Policy

Policy

Covid-19 has and will continue to have effect on many aspects of our business. With that in mind, and noting that guidance will evolve and change, our policy will be to continue working as normal with some extra safeguards in place.

Some of our clients will have their own approaches and policies that will be similar, but not necessarily identical to ours. As always, when on a client's premises/site their policies should be followed accordingly and may take precedent over ours. When the premises/site is wholly controlled by Infnitus the following should be enacted.

As per the current advice, the most important thing individuals can do to protect themselves remains washing their hands more often, for at least 20 seconds, with soap and water, wearing face coverings indoors or when unable to maintain 2m social distancing. Make sure you cough or sneeze into a tissue, put it in a bin and wash your hands.

Anyone who shows certain symptoms is being asked to self-isolate for 10 days. This means people should stay at home and avoid all but essential contact with others for 10 days from the point of displaying mild symptoms, to slow the spread of infection.

The symptoms are:

- a high temperature (37.8 degrees and above)
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to, your sense of taste or smell

You do not need to call NHS 111/119 to go into self-isolation. If your symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after 10 days contact NHS 111 online at 111.nhs.uk. If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 119 (Testing Contact Centre). For a medical emergency dial 999.

Infection control

Practice social distancing (stay at least 2 metres apart - or 1 metre with a face covering or other precautions). Physical contact should be avoided except when absolutely necessary.

- Avoid handshakes and hugs
 - A simple 'hello' will do
- Cover your coughs and sneezes
 - Use a tissue or the crook of your elbow
 - Tissues are available from the office if you can't obtain any
- Increase your personal space to 2m if you can
 - limit being in others personal space to under 15 minutes
- Wash your hands regularly
 - be mindful that type of soap and temperature according to guidance is not important, although warm/hot water and harsher soaps can lead to skin irritation and increased risk of infection
 - Surgical gloves are available from the office
- Use hand sanitiser when soap and water are not available
 - Hand sanitiser is available from the office and in some cases will be issued on site
- Clean your workspace

- Use soap and water to wipe down surfaces and do this on a regular basis
- In some cases, wipes will be provided

Self-isolation

If you develop the symptoms of infection contact management at the first opportunity and inform us. Self-isolate at home and follow the guidance [here](#). Sick pay will be available from the first day of illness.

Lone Workers

Our IPD010 Lone Working Policy remains unchanged and it is likely that those who are lone working are at reduced risk of infection provided the 'Infection Control' guidance is followed.

Door Supervisors

During the course of DS duties physical intervention risks and therefore physical contact risks are a recognised daily probability.

Follow the IPD018 Physical Intervention Policy for all PI situations and in addition:

- Wear surgical gloves if PI is anticipated
- Wash your hands and any contaminated clothing/surfaces afterward

If you suspect the presence of someone who is infected use your conflict management skills to negotiate a peaceful resolution instead of physical contact.

- If PI skills are used wash your hands and any contaminated clothing/surfaces afterward
- Report the situation to Infnitus management at the earliest opportunity

There currently appears to be no evidence or guidance that Covid-19 is caught from the blood of others or is reportable under RIDDOR.

Effects on work patterns

There is likely to be a fair amount of disruption to our work patterns as we continue forward, and there may be some increase in requirements from other businesses if staff go sick or companies temporarily shut.

We will aim to continue as normal with our operations and those who remain well or recover from infection may be asked to cover shortfalls. Please be prepared for change, as those changes may come at short notice.

Guidance

Government guidance for businesses can be found [here](#).

Further information is available at [nhs.uk](#)

See hand washing guidance [here](#)