

## Covid-19 risk assessment – home visits

Covid-19 is a new illness that can affect your lungs and airways. It is caused by a virus called coronavirus. Remember that symptoms can be mild, moderate, severe or fatal. You must carry out a Covid-19 secure risk assessment and retain a record of your actions in order to protect your practice and support any insurance claim that may arise.

You can use this form to make a record for your acupuncture clinic during the current Covid-19 situation. This checklist is intended as a prompt for use alongside the BAcC Covid-19 secure Guidelines and reflects the level of detail we recommend: it may not cover every situation and you should also include anything unique to the set-up in your clinic.

### Client:

REQUIREMENTS FOR YOUR COVID-19 SECURE RISK ASSESSMENT	NOTES	DONE/DATE
<p><b>REQUIREMENTS FOR CLIENTS PRE-TREATMENT</b></p> <p><b>Documents and information</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health information Covid-19 consent form</li> <li>• Cleaning – appointment of allocated spaces for seating, kit, clean field and hand-washing so that spaces can be cleaned afterwards for protection and contamination risk mitigation</li> <li>• Risk assessment – share the assessment for transparency</li> <li>• Respiratory and cough hygiene – share ‘Catch it, bin it, kill it’ poster or equivalent with clients along with pre-treatment screening information</li> </ul> <p><b>Contact/assess patient before agreeing to treat:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suitability for treatment</li> <li>• Treatment criteria: urgent care, high need, etc</li> <li>• Consider taking an initial case history by phone or video link to decide on face-to-face or telemedicine consultation including tongue diagnosis</li> </ul>		

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<p><b>Screen patient before home visit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any symptoms of Covid-19: high temperature, new persistent cough in the last 7 days, etc</li> <li>• Extremely clinically vulnerable patients</li> <li>• Additional respiratory symptoms or conditions: hay fever, asthma, etc</li> <li>• Other member of household with symptoms of Covid-19 or in a high-risk category.</li> <li>• Any contact in last 10 days with anyone with suspected/confirmed Covid-19</li> </ul> <p><b>Consider and/or explain to patient:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Options for telemedicine</li> <li>• Risk of face-to-face consultation v requirement for treatment: obtain signed Covid-19 consent form – can be verbal consent over the phone and signed at first appointment</li> <li>• Any instructions and/or procedures for visiting their home</li> <li>• Any changes to your practice</li> <li>• Need for chaperone and social distancing in your clinic room</li> <li>• Timing to allow for cleaning between patients and to avoid any overlap</li> <li>• Let you know immediately of any change between appointments</li> <li>• Contactless payment if possible with card machine or payment link, if cash is used ensure that hand washing protocol for handling money or paperwork is carried out</li> <li>• Allocated area for kit bag, seating and clean field before treatment</li> </ul> <p><b>Cleaning request for clients pre-visit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleaning for toilet and hand washing facilities and area to be used (acupuncturist to take towelling or paper towel to sit on and use to create a clean field)</li> <li>• Guidance for stringent hand washing practice</li> <li>• Hand washing facilities with soap and water</li> <li>• Drying of hands with disposable paper towels</li> <li>• Alcohol sanitisers in any area where washing facilities are not available</li> </ul> <p><b>Record all pre-screening information in each patient's notes</b></p>		

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<p><b>TRAVEL TO / BETWEEN CLIENTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure use of hand sanitiser on public transport and be mindful of where bags are placed / which items of clothing will be in contact with communal seating / hand rails</li> </ul>		
<p><b>WHILST IN THE CLIENT'S PROPERTY</b></p> <p><b>Entry:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of hand sanitiser followed by putting on face mask prior to entering the client's property</li> <li>• Placing bag onto an pre-agreed area within the client's property where it can remain during treatment (to ensure safe cleaning for them afterwards)</li> <li>• Hand washing as soon as possible upon entry after placement of bag</li> <li>• Placement of towel / paper or plastic covering over allocated seating area</li> </ul> <p><b>Consultation and treatment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To create a clean field, cover the allocated area with material or disposable covering and create clean field as standard</li> <li>• Social/physical distancing measures – when not carrying out acupuncture treatment, acupuncturist to sit at least 2m away or preferably in a different room</li> <li>• Aeration of rooms during treatment where possible / appropriate</li> <li>• Two-metre distance between you and your patient whenever possible</li> <li>• Need for face covering for patient to wear during treatment</li> <li>• Need for chaperone and social distancing in your clinic room</li> <li>• Need for chaperone consent form</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Cleaning:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspection of areas to be used / interacted with by the practitioner to ensure safety</li> <li>• Creation of clean field as standard – see 'Consultation and treatment' section above</li> <li>• Respiratory and cough hygiene: disposable, single-use tissues in kit brought to client's property</li> </ul>		

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<p>PPE requirements for your practice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patients: fluid-resistant face mask if patient has respiratory symptoms: hay fever, asthma, etc</li> <li>• Face masks to be worn at all times within client property</li> <li>• Change of clothes between home visits</li> </ul>		
<p>Replacement and disposal of PPE, cleaning wipes, tissues and cloths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When damaged, damp, difficult to breathe through, or potentially contaminated</li> <li>• At the end of every treatment session</li> <li>• PPE placed in normal waste for collection by your local authority</li> </ul>		