

COVID-19 – Update 11

13 May, 2020

Dear Practitioners,

Welcome to our 11th Update with our latest information and useful links. As we move into Level 2 starting at 11.59 pm tonight, please find our information to guide you through this. We will also be placing information on our [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) pages.

- **Decision-making tree and FAQs:** The COVID-19 [level two FAQs](#) have been extensively updated to provide detailed advice about working in level two safely and proactively. It is important you read these so you are informed and ready to act once you start working with people in-person again. A [decision-making tree](#) has also been created to help work through and identify steps to keep yourself and the people you work with safe and ensure equitable and accessible health services are being provided.
- **Working in non-healthcare settings such as schools, tertiary education and correctional facilities:** The OTBNZ level two [decision-making tree](#) and [FAQs](#) should be applied to these work settings in conjunction with the procedures and policies of the organisation or institution you are working for and are working at. Refer to the appropriate website or your organisation's internal advice before organising to visit in person. It is very important to use your discretion to swiftly act on and elevate any concerns about safety of yourself or others, and if you think someone should be tested for Covid 19. Ensuring equitable access to testing and minimising the risk to more vulnerable members of the population is an important role when working in the broader community as a health practitioner.
- **Contact tracing: Practitioners** will no longer be required to notify the Board if they are seeing patients face to face in Alert Level 2. Accurate clinical notes should be kept to aid contact tracing if required.
- **Practitioner's activity during lockdown -OTBNZ Survey:** Thank you for taking part in our survey. We had over 550 responses. You can view the results [here](#).
- **In conversation:** Watch our 'In Conversation' with Fran Smith, Director of Ergo OT Ltd and a private practitioner specialising in worksite assessments, on our [YouTube channel](#) as she speaks with Andrew Charnock, OTBNZ's Chief Executive and Registrar.
- **Resources**
 1. [Guidance for Mental Health and Addiction Residential Service Providers during the COVID-19 Alert Levels 3 & 4 restriction period](#)
 2. [Mental Health and Addiction Update](#) from Director General Robyn Shearer

3. [COVID-19: Funded temporary accommodation for front-line workers](#) -This scheme covers all workers undertaking essential health and disability services during the COVID-19 response in roles where they may have close contact with patients, including those employed by a DHB and those who are funded, or employed by an organisation that is being funded, to provide services by DHBs or the Ministry of Health
4. [Personal protective equipment use for non-health workers](#)
5. [Mental health resources for disability support service providers](#)
6. [COVID-19 testing in Alert Levels 3 and 2 to support New Zealand's elimination strategy](#)
7. [Clinical guidance for responding to patients with an intellectual \(learning\) disability during COVID-19 in Aotearoa New Zealand](#)
8. Health informatics New Zealand (HINZ) is providing two free webinars: [Digital Transformation in the era of Covid-19](#) – Part 2 panel discussion about the current challenges of healthcare at this time, covering topics across equity, access, Telehealth, sustaining change etc. Date: Thursday 14/5/2020, Time: 12.30-1.30pm
9. The [NZ Rehabilitation Association](#) is holding a series of talks prior to their AGM covering Telehealth specifically from a range of clinical staff who've been experiencing it. Please email admin@rehabilitation.org.nz for information about the Zoom link for calling into this meeting. Date: Thursday 14/5/2020, Time: 7pm.

Stay safe

Kia Kaha,



Andrew Charnock

Chief Executive and Registrar

Occupational Therapy Board of New Zealand

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