

## **COVID-19 Update for Physiotherapists in Private Practice February 27, 2021**

Physiotherapists working in Private Practice in the Avalon region remain closed, as per NL Govt Alert Level 5. Clinics can open to accommodate specific patient requests for emergent or urgent care

Physiotherapists working in Private Practice outside of the Avalon can be open, based on the NL Govt Alert Level 4. The Alert Level 4 guideline published by NLGovt, is updated from the original posted in March 2020.

As we now move to practice in the expanded Alert Level 4, clinics and therapists are expected to maintain compliance with all the most recent Covid-19 guidelines that were in place prior to the most recent Level 5 shutdown – patient screening, sanitization, PPE

See: <https://securerusercontent.net/72.167.25.126/2vz.390.myftpupload.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Guideline-for-Physiotherapy-Alert-Level-3-PT-reopening-final-.pdf>

With the following additions:

1. Eye protection is now strongly recommended in keeping with the CMOH's suggestion that eye protection (eg.face shield) be worn out of an abundance of caution as the virus/variant transmission through the eyes is still under study
2. Clinics are reminded that patients who are using rehabilitation gym spaces must maintain physical distancing and wear a mask at all times.

The College would like to remind all therapists that this a fluid and rapidly changing time in our province. Further changes or adjustments to our Covid-19 practice guidelines may be necessary - as we are advised by the CMOH.

All physiotherapists are commended for their adherence to our guidelines and we appreciate your ongoing patience and compliance going forward. Please stay safe as we continue to provide our patients with physiotherapy care in these difficult and challenging times.