



## COVID-19 FOOT CARE SERVICES

Hello LPNs –

Following conversations with government and in keeping with recommendations from Public Health we are pleased to offer updated information regarding professional foot care.

LPNs are now allowed to offer foot care services from their private practice (self-employed business) as per Phase 2 (Orange) and Phase 3 (Yellow). Before you resume your practice, several factors **must** be considered and managed:

1. Nursing services are generally not able to fit within the two-meter guideline for physical distancing that is still required during this pandemic. If you are unable to maintain a two-meter distance, other measures such as self-monitoring of personal health and ensuring you are implementing Infection Prevention and Control best practices must be followed. Information on [cleaning and disinfection](#) for COVID-19 can be found on the Government of New Brunswick website.
2. **Foot Care:**
  - a) All maintenance foot care treatments may resume
  - b) For existing clients that may present with any new condition, a referral to and an order from an authorized practitioner (nurse practitioner, physician, podiatrist) will be required before treatment may be initiated
  - c) For new clients that require an invasive treatment or procedure, a referral to and an order from an authorized prescriber (nurse practitioner, physician or podiatrist) will be required before treatment may be initiated
  - d) Additional PPE and Infection Control measures are required to decrease the possible spread of infection (See section 3)
  - e) If you are required to enter a client's home to provide service:
    - You must screen clients over the phone to determine the client's risk for COVID-19
    - Once you have decided it is safe to enter the home, you should do so only if you have adequate PPE (See section 3)
    - A second assessment should be done with the client to screen for COVID-19 upon entering the client's home
  - f) If the client is coming to your home or business for service:
    - You should screen each client over the phone to determine the client's risk for COVID-19
    - Clients should be instructed to stay home if they are feeling unwell or displaying any cold or flu-like symptoms

- Once you have determined it is safe for the client to attend the appointment, the client may proceed to the appointment
- A second assessment should be done with the client once they arrive to screen for COVID-19

### 3. PPE and Infection Control

- g) Guidelines for infection control are available on the Government of New Brunswick's website for various practice settings: [Infection Prevention and Control](#)
  - i. These guidelines do not replace your standards for Infection Prevention and Control
- h) Information on PPE is available in the guidance documents for health care professionals on the Government of Canada webpage; [COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment](#)
- i) Self-employed LPNs will need to obtain their personal protective equipment through local or online suppliers
- j) LPNs working directly with asymptomatic clients should wear droplet PPE, including a procedural/surgical mask, gowns and eye protection. Workplaces should have protocols for donning and doffing PPE, as well as for instructions for proper disposal
- k) You should ensure that you have access to tissues, no-touch trash receptacles, hand soap, alcohol-based hand sanitizers approved by Health Canada (DIN or NPN number), disinfectants, and disposable towels
- l) All workers, especially those in contact with the public, should self-monitor for symptoms and use the COVID-19 [self-assessment tool](#) available on the Government of New Brunswick website

If you have any questions regarding this advisement or any other practice concerns, please contact the Practice Department by email at [practiceconsultant@npls.ca](mailto:practiceconsultant@npls.ca)