**COVID-19**

**ALERT LEVEL 1: HEALTH AND DISABILITY SECTOR RISK ASSESSMENT FOR INTERACTIONS WITH PEOPLE OF UNKNOWN COVID-19 STATUS TO DETERMINE APPROPRIATE INITIAL INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC) APPROACH**

This is a risk assessment for first point of contact with people whose COVID-19 status is unknown. Please ask the questions before contact with the person if possible (by phone or signage); otherwise maintain physical distancing of at least 1 m while asking them. No matter what a person's COVID-19 status is, follow Standard Precautions for all care. Refer to your organisational IPC guidance also.

**Note:** The risk of community transmission is very low in Alert Level 1. Guidance will be updated if this context changes.

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**Does the person have an acute respiratory infection with at least one of the following: new or worsening cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose or temporary loss of smell with or without fever?**

**YES**

**NO**

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**In the 14 days prior to illness onset has the person had close contact with a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case, had international travel, had direct contact with a person who has travelled overseas, worked on an international aircraft or shipping vessel or cleaned at an international airport or maritime port or in areas/conveniences visited by international arrivals?**

**YES**

**NO**

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**In the last 14 days has the person travelled overseas or are they a close contact of someone who is a probable or confirmed COVID-19 case?**

**YES**

**NO**

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**This person has a small chance of having COVID-19.**

- Provide them with a mask to wear and help them get assessed by a health care provider so their COVID-19 status can be determined.
- Ensure they are at least 1 m away from others, or move them into a single room if available.  
- If you cannot maintain 1 m physical distancing, you should wear a medical mask.
- If the person needs care, clinical assessment or a procedure within 1 m, please refer to PPE guidance when caring for a COVID-19 case.

**This person may have another acute respiratory illness.**

- Facilitate and encourage cough etiquette and respiratory hygiene.
- If providing care outside of their place of residence, provide the patient/client a mask to wear.
- Ensure they are at least 1 m away from others, or move them into a single room if available.
- If you cannot maintain 1 m physical distancing, you should also wear a medical mask as part of droplet precautions.
- Always apply Standard Precautions depending on the nature of care to be provided.

**This person has a very small chance of being a pre-symptomatic or asymptomatic COVID-19 case.**

- If providing care outside of their place of residence, provide the patient/client a mask to wear.
- Ensure they are at least 1 m away from others, or move them into a single room if available.
- If you are providing care in their place of residence and you cannot maintain 1 m physical distancing, you should wear a medical mask.
- Always apply Standard Precautions depending on the nature of care to be provided.

**In the last 14 days has the person been in contact with someone else who has recently travelled overseas?**

**YES**

**NO**

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**IMPORTANT REMINDER:**

- Always facilitate and encourage cough etiquette and respiratory hygiene, as well as adhering to the '5 moments for hand hygiene'.

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1 This assessment will determine whether you need to take extra IPC precautions because they are at risk of having COVID-19, or they have been potentially exposed to COVID-19 in the past 14 days and therefore they have a risk, although very low, of being pre-symptomatic or an asymptomatic COVID-19 case.


3 This includes Customs and Immigration staff and staff at quarantine/isolation facilities. This excludes household and community contacts of aircrew

4 This does not apply to those who have worked on an international aircraft or shipping vessel (for example, air or maritime crew), unless they have been asked to self-isolate

5 The patient/client is not required to continue wearing a mask once in a single room

6 www.health.govt.nz/ppe-health

7 The person only needs to wear a mask when receiving care outside their place of residence, to prevent transmission risk to other people

8 Unless they are in their private home

9 This includes Customs and Immigration staff, staff at quarantine/isolation facilities, people who have worked on an international aircraft or shipping vessel (unless they have been asked to self-isolate), household and community contacts of aircrew.

10 Other control measures for this group are sufficient that if they are asymptomatic, only Standard Precautions are required