

## ALERT LEVEL 1: HEALTH AND DISABILITY SECTOR RISK ASSESSMENT FOR INTERACTIONS WITH PEOPLE OF UNKNOWN COVID-19 STATUS.

This is a risk assessment for the 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 metre when asking them.<sup>1</sup>

No matter what the person's COVID-19 status is, follow Standard Precautions for all care.<sup>2</sup> Also, refer to your organisational Infection Prevention and Control Guidance.

**Note:** The risk of community transmission is very low at Alert Level 1.

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



In the 14 days prior to illness onset has the person: had contact with a confirmed or positive case; had international travel; had direct contact with a person who has travelled overseas<sup>3</sup>; worked on an international aircraft or shipping vessel; cleaned at an international airport or maritime port in area/conveniences visited by international arrivals; exited a MIQ facility (excluding recovered cases) or met any other criteria requested by the local Medical Officer of Health.

In the 14 days prior to illness onset has the person: had contact with a confirmed or positive case; had international travel; had direct contact with a person who has travelled overseas<sup>3</sup>; worked on an international aircraft or shipping vessel; cleaned at an international airport or maritime port in area/conveniences visited by international arrivals; exited a MIQ facility (excluding recovered cases) or met any other criteria requested by the local Medical Officer of Health.



### This person has a small chance of having COVID-19

- ▶ Provide them with a medical mask to wear for source control and help them to get assessed by a healthcare provider so that their COVID-19 status can be determined.
- ▶ Ensure they are at least 1m from others or move them into a single room if available
- ▶ If you cannot maintain a physical distance of 1m then you should follow Droplet Precautions (medical mask and eye protection).
- ▶ If the person needs care, clinical assessment or a procedure refer to PPE Guidance when caring for a COVID-19 case.<sup>4</sup>

### This person may have another acute respiratory infection.

- ▶ Provide them with a medical mask to wear for source control and help them to get assessed by a healthcare provider so that their COVID-19 status can be determined.
- ▶ Ensure they are at least 1m from others or move them into a single room if available.
- ▶ If you cannot maintain a physical distance of 1m then you should follow Droplet Precautions (medical mask and eye protection).

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

- ▶ Provide the patient/client with a medical mask to wear for source control
- ▶ Ensure they are at least 1m from others, or move them into a single room if available
- ▶ Follow Droplet Precautions (medical mask and eye protection).

Apply Standard Precautions depending on the nature of care to be provided.

### IMPORTANT REMINDER

Always facilitate and encourage cough etiquette and respiratory hygiene as well as adhering to the '5 moments for hand hygiene'.<sup>5</sup>

1. This assessment will determine what additional IPC precautions are required.
2. Refer to Frequently Asked Questions about PPE [www.health.govt.nz/ppe-health](http://www.health.govt.nz/ppe-health)
3. This includes Customs and Immigration staff and all staff at managed isolation/quarantine facilities
4. [www.health.govt.nz/ppe-health](http://www.health.govt.nz/ppe-health)
5. Hand Hygiene New Zealand resources <https://www.hqsc.govt.nz/our-programmes/infection-prevention-and-control/projects/hand-hygiene/>