



Returning to Work for CCO Members

Guidelines for Return to Practice for CCO Members

To Come into Force when the Ontario Government Announces Effective Date for Return to Work for Chiropractors

Review and comply with all government directives and orders to maximize the health and safety of patients and all office staff.

1 Preparation for Before Patient Arrives



All members must undertake and document **Active** and **Passive** screening before any in-person interactions with patients or staff.

Active Screening

- Conducted over the phone or through teleportal before in-person patient visit and/or when the patient arrives at the office

Passive Screening

- Appropriate signage at all points of entry to the office
- Screening messages on office website and voicemail

If a patient answers **yes** to any of the questions on the screening guidance document from the Ontario Ministry of Health, the patient should be advised to:

- Not attend in person at the member's office for at least 14 days
- Complete the Ontario Government's self-assessment
- Contact an appropriate medical authority to report their condition and seek treatment if necessary
- A member who forms the opinion that a person has or may have COVID-19 is required to report this to the medical officer of health of the local health unit

Check List:

- Install signage, rearrange office layout and flow for safe two metre distancing; plexiglass barriers are recommended
- Remove all soft materials (magazines, toys etc.)
- Office cleaning and disinfection
- Minimize staffing
- Appropriate PPE supplies for all staff; consistent with protocols of the Ministry of Health and Public Health Ontario
- Safe patient flow schedule
- Ensure all staff understand new return to work practices and requirements



2 Patient Visits



Physical Distancing

Everyone should remain two metres away from each other when in the office. Appropriate PPE (e.g. surgical/procedural mask) will be used when conducting examinations or treatments within two metres.

Hygiene

Hand hygiene is the most effective way of preventing the transmission of infections to patients and staff. Members should wash their hands frequently, including when entering the clinic, before and after each patient interaction and when changing their PPE.

PPE (members and staff)

- The use of surgical/procedural masks when treating patients within a two metre distance must be consistent with protocols of the Ministry of Health and Public Health Ontario
- Have specific work clothes and home clothes and clean work clothes every day
- Follow appropriate procedures when changing PPE

Cleaning

The frequency of cleaning and disinfection is dependent on the nature of use/contact of the surface/item in question. Members should follow the cleaning and disinfection protocols from Public Health Ontario. This would include cleaning of all diagnostic and treatment tools and treatment surfaces.



Check List:

- Prominent signage for hand hygiene
- Clean and disinfect all surfaces after each patient following the protocols of Public Health Ontario
- Regular periodic environment cleaning
- Access to hand sanitizer for patients and staff
- Contact-less payment process and limiting the exchange of paper wherever possible is encouraged

3 Monitoring for Symptoms



Conducting ongoing regular active and passive screening of patients and staff.

If a patient or member of staff exhibits symptoms of COVID-19, they must stay home or be sent home and the member is required to report this to the medical officer of health of the local health unit.

Check List:

Common Symptoms

- Fever (temperature of 37.8°C or greater)
- New or worsening cough
- Shortness of breath (dyspnea)

Other symptoms can include:

- Sore throat
- Hoarse voice
- Difficulty swallowing
- New olfactory or taste disorder(s)
- Nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain
- Runny nose. Sneezing or nasal congestion