

COVID-19 Point of Care Risk Assessment Tool

Prior to each client interaction, staff must complete a Point of Care Risk Assessment (PCRA) to assess the risks posed by a patient/client/resident, situation or procedure to themselves, other care providers, other patients/clients/residents and visitors.

Conducting a PCRA involves asking a series questions before every client interaction to determine the risk of being exposed to a potential hazard, such as COVID-19:

1. Is the hazard present in the situation?

- Close contact (within two meters) with a person with symptoms of COVID-19?
- Close contact with surfaces or items contaminated with body fluids?
- Likelihood of splashes or sprays of blood or body fluids?

2. What is the health status of the person receiving care?

Examples of situations in which there might be a greater risk of exposure to patient/resident/client droplets include:

- Providing assistance with care needs and hand hygiene
- Persons with copious respiratory secretions
- Persons with frequent coughing or sneezing
- Persons with poor compliance to respiratory hygiene, hand hygiene and physical distancing
- Persons who are immunocompromised (potential prolonged viral shedding)

3. What type of task am I doing (from a specific interaction)?

- Direct care tasks requiring close contact involve a greater risk of exposure (e.g., wound care, feeding, assisting with bathing, dressing, transporting clients)?
- Indirect care tasks not requiring close contact (e.g., housekeeping, delivering or removing trays or equipment from an empty room)?

Note: Always try to maintain a physical distance of six feet/two meters for tasks that do not require close contact.

4. Where am I doing my task?

Some examples of situations in which there might be a greater risk of exposure include:

- Prolonged and frequent contact to an infected source
- Inadequate patient/client/resident placement or cohorting

- Shared rooms or washrooms
- Shared patient/client/resident care equipment without cleaning between episodes of patient/client/resident care
- Inadequate spatial separation (at least six feet/two meters) between the person receiving care and caregiver
- Inadequate ventilation
- Infrequent housekeeping
- Non-compliance with cleaning and disinfection standards of environment and/or equipment

5. What action do I need to take?

Choose appropriate actions, control measures and/or PPE needed to minimize the risk of clients, care providers and other staff being exposed to COVID-19.

Appropriate actions can include:

- Hand hygiene
- Respiratory hygiene
- Source control and physical distancing
- Environmental and equipment cleaning
- Accommodation selection
- Client ambulation or transfer
- Use of PPE and additional precautions as required

Resources

<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/IPC-acute-care-manual-winnipeg.pdf>

<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/COVID-19-highlights-winnipeg.pdf>

<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/IPC-acute-care-manual-provincial.pdf>

<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/COVID-19-highlights-provincial.pdf>

<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-highlights-ltc.pdf>

<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-physical-distancing-and-restoring-services.pdf>

<https://sharedhealthmb.ca/files/covid-19-provincial-ppe-framework-guidance.pdf>