

Preventative Measures

While physiotherapy clinics may remain open until directed otherwise by the Government of Alberta and Chief Medical Officer of Health, they must also implement measures to limit the spread of disease. These measures include:

- Environmental cleaning and disinfection of surfaces.
- Screening patients for respiratory illness or risk factors for COVID-19 (e.g., recent international travel) **before they attend their appointments** and rescheduling patients as indicated.
- Use of frequent hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette by both staff and patients.
- Directing staff who are ill to stay home.
- Reconfiguring clinical spaces (treatment beds, waiting areas) and altering staff and patient booking practices to adhere to social distancing and maximum attendance instructions of public health officials.
- Conducting patient-specific risk assessments to determine patients who may need to be rescheduled for a later date due to their individual health needs or health status and discussing the results of the risk assessment with the patient.

Physiotherapy Alberta encourages members and clinic owners to take a risk-based approach to managing their business decisions regarding continuing or ceasing operations. Conducting a risk assessment of the practice environment, patient population and facilities available will help clinicians and business owners to determine their ability to continue to provide services.

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