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Aoraki Physio Services LTD. Covid-19 Protection Framework Policy

Aoraki Physio Services LTD. trading as Aoraki Physio & Pilates supports the Governments Pandemic response and has a fully vaccinated staff and contractors working in the premises. Aoraki Physio Services LTD. is committed to following the guidelines and maintain up to date on developments with procedures adjusted to reflect any changes.

Vaccination offers the best protection against COVID-19 both for individuals and for those they interact with, including health care workers and other patients, however some New Zealanders do not qualify for vaccination and some have chosen not to be vaccinated.

Access to health care is a fundamental right. The Ministry of Health is of the view that in most cases, with vaccinated staff and other precautions in place, that the risks are unlikely to be high enough to provide sufficient justification to deny access to health care on the basis of vaccination status.

Aoraki Physio Services LTD is not operating under a My Vaccine Pass system. This means Vaccination passes will not be needed for physiotherapy appointments. Aoraki Physio Services will be following the government guidelines for health professionals which includes the following:

- Screening for Covid -19 symptoms, travel history and places of interest – consent form completed prior to first appointment. Text or phone screen for returning clients.
- Vaccination status needs to be disclosed to ensure full disclosure, appropriate risk management to maintain safety. If it is known that the patient is unvaccinated, then steps can be taken to ensure that the risk to staff and other patients in the facility are managed. Our strategy will be to offer the last appointment of the day to unvaccinated clients due to poor airflow in our clinic and medical masks to be worn please.
- Contact tracing with the Covid tracer app, and our practice management system that records times and details of client and visitors
- Infection controls measures – sanitisation of surfaces after each client, twice daily sanitising of shared facilities
- PPE (personal protection equipment) - Masks are mandatory for clients and clinicians during consults. If this is not possible Telehealth will be offered as a viable alternative.
- Personal Hygiene- after any close contact eg touching of client, hand washing before and after each client is routine and mandatory. Clients are required to disinfect hands with hand sanitiser on entry
- Social distancing- at this time, no waiting area will be offered. This is done to maintain the required social distancing. Client will wait outside preferably in their cars.
- Distancing in consult rooms to >1m, minimising any close contact with clients for assessment/treatment
- Staff and contractors required to stay home if sick/unwell.
- Option to undertake telehealth remote video access sessions where risks are considered sufficient to not undertake face to face consultation
- Maintaining low numbers in the premises with no more than maximum 4 people in treatment room at a time.

Individual clients and contractors have a responsibility to follow applicable health and safety guidelines and procedures when utilising our health service, if they are unwilling to do so then access to the premises and services will be denied.

Any restrictions to access to our services will be informed by a risk assessment, and the onus is upon the individual clinician/contractor with consultation of management to justify that the risks are sufficiently high to support those restrictions.

Aoraki Physio Services LTD. respects individual choice and wishes to support vulnerable members of our community to access the health care they require in a safe and informed way.