

Darling Downs Therapy Services (DDTS) - COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Management Plan

COVID-19 has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organisation, and Australia has declared it as a health emergency.

DDTS has developed a COVID-19 management plan in line with Government advice.

The aim of this plan is to:

- continue to ensure our practices are in line with principals of effective infection control and management of COVID-19
- plan for the prevention, containment and management of an incidence of COVID-19 within our service scope (e.g. staff, contractors, clients)
- adapt our processes as required in response to the latest information from State and Federal Health Authorities around COVID-19
- continue to meet our service agreement responsibilities to our clients as much as possible through alternate avenues for service delivery where appropriate (e.g. phone appointments, use of technologies such as a 'Zoom')
- be in communication with our clients to advise where services need to change or be postponed

Phase 1

Phase 2

Phase 3

Preparation, Prevention and Early Detection

DDTS, its employees and contractors are to:

implement recommended infection control practices:

- practice social distancing
- ensure regular recommended hygiene practices, particularly hand washing
- use hand washing / hand sanitiser between each client appointment/contact and meeting
- disinfect surfaces of resources/ materials used in client visits as required
- complete the department of health 'Infection Control Training – COVID 19' as soon as possible

ensure early detection practices

- all employees and contractors are to closely monitor themselves for symptoms (fever, coughing, sore throat, shortness of breath, fatigue)
- contact their doctor or Coronavirus Health information Line if they have symptoms and follow advice given
- implement self-isolation (as per Dept Health) for:
 - o international travellers – 14 days
 - o close contact with person known to have COVID-19
 - o person who has symptoms and is waiting on testing

Send correspondence to current, active clients to advise of DDTS Covid-19 plan and their obligations.

Management plan for suspected COVID-19 cases amongst DDTS employees or contractors

For person showing symptoms

- contact their doctor or Coronavirus Health information Line and follow advice given
- implement self-isolation (as per Dept Health) until test results are known
- follow any other advice from doctor / Health dept

For other employees and contractors

- continue good infection control practices
- commence self-isolation if have had contact with person with suspected COVID-19
- if symptoms emerge contact their doctor or Coronavirus Health information Line and follow advice
- continue to implement self-isolation (as per Dept Health) until test results are known
- follow any other advice from doctor / Health dept

Management plan for suspected COVID-19 cases amongst clients

For employees and contractors

- as above
- ensure alternate avenues for service delivery are offered where appropriate

If COVID-19 Case is Confirmed

For other employees and contractors

- continue good infection control practices
- commence self-isolation if have had close contact with the person with COVID-19

Seek guidance from Dept. of Health

Work with health authorities to provide information to ensure they can contact anyone who has been in contact with staff member with COVID-19 as soon as possible.

If Case is a staff member or contractor, notify others in close contact with person diagnosed including next of kin where appropriate – in consultation with Department of Health

Seek clearance from the Dept of Health once the isolation period is over

Resources

Health department COVID-19 information on symptoms:

<https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert/what-you-need-to-know-about-coronavirus-covid-19#symptoms>

<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-identifying-the-symptoms>

COVID-19 symptom checker: <https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19-symptoms-and-how-the-virus-spreads-faqs>

Coronavirus Health Information Line: Call this line if you are seeking information on coronavirus (COVID-19). Operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. [1800 020 080](tel:1800020080)

NDIS Coronavirus information for participants: <file:///C:/Users/61427/Downloads/PB%20ER%20Coronavirus%20PDF.pdf>

Handwashing guide – Qld Government: https://www.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0013/120811/qh-handwashing-12-step-guide-poster.pdf

Coronavirus prevention – 5 steps: <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/take-action/coronavirus-prevention>

