

COVID-19 update - 22 September 2021



Dear service provider

I'm writing to provide an update about:

- **Personal Protective Equipment in the workplace including safety alert on cloth masks**
- **Access to Personal Protective Equipment**

Personal protective equipment in the workplace

With an increase in the number of positive cases being reported, DCJ has prepared a Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) matrix which we thought would be worth sharing with you and your staff as a resource. The matrix provides a valuable reference of the types of PPE recommended when planning home or client visits and managing delivery of services where there is an active COVID case.

The matrix has been developed in collaboration with NSW Health and the Clinical Excellence Commission (CEC). You can access the [Video by the Clinical Excellence Commission](#) which demonstrates how to put on (don) and take off (doff) PPE.

You may wish to review your COVID Safety Plans for staff having face to face contact with clients and families.

Safety Alert - cloth face masks

Attached is the Safety Alert distributed to DCJ staff, on using cloth face masks whilst at work. This alert flags the quality and effectiveness of cloth masks does not meet a recognised standard and their ability to shield the wearer from the transmission of disease being unclear.

This information is provided to you for your consideration in relation to your own staff.

Access to personal protective equipment

PPE appears to be available in the community, you should be able obtain PPE from regular suppliers. If this becomes a problem, the NSW Government has a [list of suppliers of PPE](#) for industry and the community during the pandemic.

If they are having trouble sourcing PPE, please contact your contract manager.

More information

We're actively monitoring the COVID-19 situation and we'll continue to provide regular updates. The [NSW Government COVID-19 website](#) is the best place to keep informed on what you need to know about the current situation.

We're regularly updating information on the [DCJ COVID-19 latest updates](#) and [DCJ program specific advice](#) webpages. This includes [COVID-19 CALD resources](#) in community languages and [practice guidance for virtual home visits](#). NCOSS have resources to provide [latest information on COVID-19 relevant to health and community services sector](#).

We're here to support you. If you need help, please contact your contract manager or email us at COVID19.Support@facs.nsw.gov.au.

Regards

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