

RETURNING TO WORK IN ALERT LEVEL 2



SAFE WORKING GUIDELINES AND ADVICE

27th May 2020

Guidelines and more information about safer sex can be found at
<https://www.nzpc.org.nz/COVID-19-Information>

These guidelines have been created in line with government requirements of working during COVID 19 Alert Level 2 and have been informed by community contribution. NZPC would like to thank the sex work community of Aotearoa NZ for their donated time and input.

We encourage all sex workers to keep up to date with sex work specific guidelines via the NZPC website:

<https://www.nzpc.org.nz/COVID-19-Information>

As well as self informing workplace practices via the government COVID 19 website:

<https://covid19.govt.nz/businesses-and-employees/businesses-and-services/doing-business-at-alert-level-2/>

And the Ministry of Health website:

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-information-specific-audiences/covid-19-advice-workplaces>

Please get in contact with us if you any questions – Contact info at the back of this resource

RETURNING TO WORK IN COVID 19

Sex workers operate in many diverse settings and environments. Read through this document to see which guidelines fit with your circumstances.

Indoor – Outdoor

IMPORTANT

1. CONDOMS, DAMS, and LUBE
 2. REDUCE RISK
 3. CONTACT TRACING
-

REDUCE RISK

Alternative services

Consider alternative ways of working, for example

- Online subscription and camming work – Get in contact with us to see our Online working guide
- Telephone service
- Voyeuristic services – peepshow, self masturbation 2 metres apart, striptease
- Quarantine/medical mask fantasy
- Sexual positions that avoid the ‘moist breath zone’ - keep your face away from other people’s faces. Consider reverse positions like reverse cowgirl or doggy style variations

Do not offer GFE

Do not offer kissing

Avoid the ‘moist breath zone’ as much as possible

Wear mask and gloves when needed – remember to change these often and do not touch your face

Clients and workers should avoid touching faces

Don’t do sex work if you have C19/cold/flu symptoms

OR are in a high risk category

- over 70yrs
- compromised immunity
- other conditions including respiratory conditions, heart conditions, high blood pressure, kidney problems or diabetes
- receiving treatment for cancer or blood conditions
- pregnant

Screen clients OUT for any of the following (DON'T SEE THEM!)

- Symptoms of C19/cold/flu
- High risk categories (see above)
- Known Covid19 contacts
- Whether they have travelled from a cluster community
- If a client arrives and has visible signs of cold or flu, ask them to leave immediately - Clean anything they may have touched

Strict hygiene

Indoor

- Shower before and after each client - the client should shower before and after each booking
- Frequent and thorough hand washing, especially after handling cash
- Frequent and thorough surface cleaning
- Washing linen between each client
- Anti- viral disinfectant (not just anti-bacterial)
 - Look for ingredients *hypochlorite* OR *activated hydrogen peroxide* (0.5%)
 - Conventional bleach
 - Ethanol
 - Isopropyl alcohol
 - Methylated spirits

Outdoor

- Shower before and after each client when available or carry a pack of baby wipes

- Frequent and thorough hand washing when available or hand sanitising, especially after handling cash
 - Look for hand sanitiser that has at least 70% alcohol
- Touch as little surfaces as possible if you are in someone else's car or house

Other things to consider

- Money laundering – literally wash or wipe your cash with appropriate product (e.g. isopropyl alcohol or hot soapy water)
- Don't share showers or spas with clients
- Don't share toys, make up, food etc with colleagues
- Consider holding off on doubles bookings to limit the amount of people in one space
- Allow extra time between bookings to thoroughly clean all surfaces, including (but not limited to):
 - door handles
 - bathroom/toilet fittings
 - bedside tables
 - bed heads and surrounds
 - communal lube/oil dispensers
- Extra vigilance cleaning toys, cuffs, paddles, and other props
- Extra vigilance and dams for anal play (Covid 19 is transferred in faecal matter)
- Consider using one outfit per booking and washing before next use
- Consider getting a plastic unit for all client's clothes and items, that can be easily sanitised after each booking
- Practice safe distancing in shared spaces – consider setting up your dressing station 1 metre apart from your colleagues (although the work place is considered a controlled environment and colleagues can often feel like close friends or whanau/family. You do not have to adhere to the 1 metre rule, you can use your judgement as to who you have close proximity contact with inside your workplace bubble *this does not mean clients!)



If you have concerns about the way your workplace is operating under Alert Level 2, you can report it to the COVID-19 Compliance Centre:

<https://covid19.govt.nz/alert-system/covid-19-compliance/>

RETURNING TO WORK IN COVID 19

Entertainment

IMPORTANT

1. REDUCE RISK
2. CONTACT TRACING

REDUCE RISK

Alternative services

Consider alternative ways of working, for example

- Online subscription and camming work – Get in contact with us to see our Online working guide
- Voyeuristic services – peepshow
- Quarantine/medical mask fantasy
- Dance routines that avoid the ‘moist breath zone’ - keep your face away from other people’s faces. Try and keep a 1 - 2 metre distance between you and the client when in a private dance
- Your club could keep the music a little lower than usual so you can have conversations with clients at a 2 - 1 metre distance

Do not offer kissing

Do not allow motor-boating

Avoid the ‘moist breath zone’ as much as possible

Wear mask and gloves when needed – remember to change these often and do not touch your face

Clients and dancers should avoid touching faces

Don’t dance at work if you have C19/cold/flu symptoms

OR are in a high risk category

- over 70yrs
- compromised immunity

- other conditions including respiratory conditions, heart conditions, high blood pressure, kidney problems or diabetes
- receiving treatment for cancer or blood conditions
- pregnant

If a client looks unwell, keep your distance and alert a manager

Do not take a private dance with someone who is coughing, sneezing, sweating profusely or showing signs of cold/flu

Strict hygiene

- Frequent and thorough hand washing, especially after handling cash
- Carry a small hand sanitiser in your purse if you'd like
 - Look for hand sanitiser that has at least 70% alcohol
- Adhere to club cleaning protocol around stage and pole use. Make sure poles or props are thoroughly cleaned with the appropriate product between each performance *If your club has any aerial equipment that is wrapped in a cloth tape or made of fabric, we recommend not using this during level 2 as it is hard to clean appropriately without deteriorating the equipment making it dangerous to use.
- Ensure you are given enough time to sanitise the lap dance rooms before and after your dance
- Anti- viral disinfectant (not just anti-bacterial)
 - Look for ingredients *hypochlorite* OR *activated hydrogen peroxide* (0.5%)
 - Conventional bleach
 - Ethanol
 - Isopropyl alcohol
 - Methylated spirits

Other things to consider

- Money laundering – literally wash or wipe your cash with appropriate product (e.g. isopropyl alcohol or hot soapy water)



- Don't share showers or spas with colleagues or clients
- Don't reuse towels
- Don't share toys, make up, food etc with colleagues
- Extra vigilance cleaning toys, cuffs, paddles, and other props
- Consider holding off on double or group shows, showers and lap dances
- Consider using one outfit per booking and washing before next use
- Consider getting a plastic unit for all client's clothes and items, that can be easily sanitised after each private dance
- Get creative with your stag shows – keep your distance and no touching
- Practice safe distancing in shared spaces – consider setting up your dressing station 1 metre apart from your colleagues (although the work place is considered a controlled environment and colleagues can often feel like close friends or whanau/family. You do not have to adhere to the 1 metre rule, you can use your judgement as to who you have close proximity contact with inside your workplace bubble *this does not mean clients!)

If you have concerns about the way your workplace is operating under Alert Level 2, you can report it to the COVID-19 Compliance Centre:

<https://covid19.govt.nz/alert-system/covid-19-compliance/>

CONTACT TRACING INFORMATION

If a sex worker or a client tests positive for Covid 19 it's important that all the people who have been in contact with them are notified, isolates, and gets tested before they return to moving about normally. Isolating cases of Covid 19 is how Aotearoa New Zealand will stay on top of Covid 19.

Calling all the people who may have been in contact with a Covid 19 case is called contact tracing. More information is available from <https://covid19.govt.nz/assets/resources/posters/COVID-19-contact-tracing-info-A4.pdf>

****IMPORTANT****

Keep a record of your jobs – date, time, and contact details

Agree with your clients that they will contact you if they test positive for Covid 19 (or have a close contact with someone who has)

How does it work exactly?

When a person tests positive for Covid 19 they will be called by the local public health unit who will ask them to provide details of all the close contacts they've had.

Close contacts include

- Direct contact with body fluids of a case
- Living in the same household or hostel with shared facilities with a case
- Face-to-face contact within 2metres for longer than 15 minutes
- Having been in an enclosed environment (classroom, waiting room etc) with a case

That information will then be passed onto contact tracers, who will connect with the people and places on the list to tell them that they may need to get a Covid 19 test.

For independent workers:

Make sure you have a record of your bookings

- Date, time, location, contact details

Get agreement from your client that if they are a close contact or test positive for Covid 19 they will contact you directly, or include you on a list of close contacts to public health officials.

For entertainers:

Ask how the club is collecting contact tracing information. For example, are they taking details of each client who books a private dance and recording it for that particular dancer?

We also recommend you keep a notebook to record the times and dates of when you were at work and how many close contacts you had that evening. i.e.: private dances

For venues:

Shoe box method

The shoe box method is the simplest method.

Ask the client to record on a piece of paper as much information as possible

***must have**

- ***Date**
- ***Time**
- ***Name**
- ***Phone number**
- Email
- Home address
- Date of Birth

They place their paper in a secure shoe box. In a case of Covid 19 the box can be opened to get the details of those who shared the space in the same timeframe and on the same day.

If you use a paper system here are some things to consider, adapted from

<https://www.privacy.org.nz/blog/privacy-and-covid-19-hospitality-establishment-guest-registers/>

Transparency

The client needs to know what the information is for and how it will be used

For example: this information is only being collected for Covid 19 contact tracing reasons. It will only be given to MoH or DHB on request in the event that it is required for contact tracing purposes. We will not use it for any other purpose and will destroy it after 4 weeks. It will only be kept with me/us at this address. You have the right to access and correct any information we have about you

Security

Keep the information in a very safe place. For example, if you have a safe or where you keep your cash

Retention and disposal

After 4 weeks make sure you dispose of this information securely. Don't just put it in the bin, shred it if you can or find another way to destroy it.

Use of information

This is not an opportunity to collect numbers and information about clients and must only be used for contact tracing information. If you want to collect information about clients, then you will need to gather that in a different way explaining what you are going to use it for.

QR system contact tracing methods

You can use a QR code for contactless scanning, and record information electronically.

QR system apps require the business to buy a subscription, and the client to download the app.

When the client visits, they scan the business QR code with their app. This records the time/date/location etc in THEIR phone – and in cases of Covid 19 (for a business or client), a generic message would be sent to all the contacts they had during their last 2 weeks.

This method reduces security risk in some ways because the information is kept in a software system and only be accessed in cases of Covid 19. Then it is a 'one push' to alert all the contacts through the app that they need to get a test.

There are a number of systems available and we suggest sex workers do their own research to decide which one to choose. Below is a small selection of options. Some are free and some cost approximately \$35-50 for 3-6 months.

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner recently published this information about contact tracing solutions <https://privacy.org.nz/blog/assessing-contact-tracing-solutions/>

<https://covidregister.nz/>

<https://www.paperkite.co.nz/ripp/> (free through WCC for Wellington businesses)

<https://www.pappus.co.nz/touchfree-contact-tracing/>. (\$33+GST for 6 months)

<https://tracing.co.nz/>

<https://simpletrace.nz/>

Cases of close contacts

If you are called by the Ministry of Health's National Close Contact Service (NCCS) because someone you've spent time with has tested positive for Covid 19 it is recommended that you isolate until you have a negative test result.

These calls will usually come from **09 801 3010**. Follow up calls will usually come from **09 302 0408**.

We strongly recommend that sex workers discuss their contact tracing plan with clients and ensure that clients have a plan to tell NCCS (or at the least contact the sex worker directly) if they test positive for Covid 19.

If clients don't want to say that they've seen a sex worker they could say things like

- I saw a "friend" in the supermarket, stood closer than 2m and chatted for 30 minutes
- I had a drink with a sex worker friend for an hour
- I sat next to a friend who is a sex worker on the bus and sneezed

They must ensure the interaction is considered 'close contact'

What's important is that sex workers and clients inform NCCS or at the very least each other if they test positive for Covid 19.

For this reason, it is important for sex workers to keep a record of who they have seen, their contact details, the date and time, and sometimes the location, of when the meeting occurred.

Our regional offices can be contacted with any questions you may have about working safely

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