

## Use of PPE with clients and household members during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Antenatal or Postpartum Visits Decision Tree

Midwives should consider the following general principles when deciding to visit a client:

- If a client is in self-isolation, wait to conduct an in-person visit until the period of self-isolation has ended unless urgent care is required.
- If a household member is in self-isolation and/or symptomatic for COVID-19, offer a clinic visit (if transport by car is possible) without the household member in attendance to avoid risk of exposure and to minimize use of PPE supply.
- Conduct a risk assessment to determine whether contact and droplet precautions are required during a client encounter. Midwives may choose to use droplet and contact precautions for all clinical encounters if required PPE is available.
- If an in-person assessment at home is required, limit the visit to < 15 minutes in a well-ventilated room if possible.
  - Bring the minimum equipment required to conduct visit into the home and effectively disinfect equipment before leaving the home.
  - Educate about frequent hand hygiene, respiratory etiquettes and disinfection of commonly touched surfaces.

	CLIENT		HOUSEHOLD MEMBER		MIDWIFERY USE OF PPE	OTHER CONSIDERATIONS
Ex 1	No symptoms AND no travel history <sup>1</sup> AND no close contact <sup>2</sup>	AND	No symptoms + no travel history + no close contact with confirmed or probable case + No close contact with a person with acute respiratory illness who has travelled	=	Perform <b>risk assessment</b> and determine appropriate PPE	Household member able to attend.
			No symptoms + Self-isolating <sup>3</sup>		Perform <b>risk assessment</b> and determine appropriate PPE	Household member to isolate in separate room for duration of visit. If separate room unavailable, maintain a 2 meter distance from household member.
			Symptoms + self-isolating <sup>3</sup>		Contact precaution PPE...	if household member is completely isolated in a separate room for duration of visit.
			Symptoms + no self-isolating <sup>4</sup>		Droplet precaution PPE...	if household member is unable to remain in separate room. Maintain 2 meter distance from household member.
			Symptoms + no self-isolating <sup>4</sup>		Contact precaution PPE...	if household member is completely isolated in a separate room for duration of visit.
			Symptoms + no self-isolating <sup>4</sup>		Droplet precaution PPE...	if household member is unable to remain in separate room. Maintain 2 meter distance from household member.

	CLIENT		HOUSEHOLD MEMBER		MIDWIFERY USE OF PPE	OTHER CONSIDERATIONS
Ex 2	No symptoms AND travel history <sup>1</sup> OR Close contact <sup>2</sup>  (Client is required to self- isolate)	AND	No symptoms + no travel history + no close contact with confirmed or probable case + No close contact with a person with acute respiratory illness who has travelled	=	Consider droplet precaution PPE.	
			No symptoms + Self-isolating <sup>3</sup>		Consider droplet precaution PPE.	Household member to isolate in separate room for duration of visit. If separate room unavailable, maintain a 2 meter distance from household member.
			Symptoms + self-isolating <sup>3</sup>		Consider droplet precaution PPE.	Household member to isolate in separate room for duration of visit. If separate room unavailable, maintain a 2 meter distance from household member.
			Symptoms + no self-isolating <sup>4</sup>		Consider droplet precaution PPE.	Household member to isolate in separate room for duration of visit. If separate room unavailable, maintain a 2 meter distance from household member.
Ex 3	Symptoms BUT No travel history AND No close contact BUT not been tested AND Self-isolating	AND	Condition of household member not relevant to midwifery decision making. <sup>5</sup>	=	Use droplet precaution PPE.	Limit interaction to client only.

	CLIENT		HOUSEHOLD MEMBER		MIDWIFERY USE OF PPE	OTHER CONSIDERATIONS
Ex 4	Symptoms AND travel history OR close contact BUT not been tested AND Self-isolating	AND	Condition of household member not relevant to midwifery decision making. <sup>5</sup>	=	Use droplet precaution PPE.	Limit interaction to client only.
Ex 5	Symptoms AND awaiting test results AND Self isolating	AND	Condition of household member not relevant to midwifery decision making. <sup>5</sup>	=	Use droplet precaution PPE.	Limit interaction to client only.
Ex 6	Symptoms AND tested positive AND self-isolating	AND	Condition of household member not relevant to midwifery decision making. <sup>5</sup>	=	Use droplet precaution PPE.	Limit interaction to client only.

<sup>1</sup> Travel history is defined as any travel in the previous 14 days before onset of illness. (PHAC, 2020)

<sup>2</sup> Close contact is defined as: a person who provided care or who had close prolonged physical contact or who lived with an individual with a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19, or with a person with acute respiratory illness who has been to an impacted area. (PHAC 2020)

<sup>3</sup> A household member must self-isolate if: travel history in the previous 14 days or, close contact with a confirmed or probable case or, close contact with a person with acute respiratory illness who has travelled. Self-isolation means staying home, and avoid being within the same room with others within the home setting using a separate bathroom if available. If this cannot be avoided, a distance of at least 2 metres should be maintained from others and the contact should consider wearing a mask if available to them.

<sup>4</sup> A client may come into contact with a family member or household member who is not self-isolating due to choice or personal circumstances i.e., no separate room, bathroom to isolate themselves in.

<sup>5</sup> Client is in self-isolation. Should not have contact with household members.