

EARLY AUTISM PROJECT

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In-Person Services Consent Form During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Step 3 of BC Re-Start Plan Updates (July 2021)

EAP clinicians are committed to providing safe and effective in-person services when clinically appropriate during BC's Restart Plan. There are risks of spreading the coronavirus/communicable diseases during in-person services to both parties that EAP would like to mitigate by following the protocols outlined below. EAP will not be able to continue to provide in-person services if the following protocols are not followed or if health authority regulations prevent this.

Protocols for EAP Staff protection

- Masks are no longer required for clients/family members. However, we respectfully request that families who have not been **fully vaccinated** consider the continued wearing of masks during sessions to maintain safety for all EAP staff and families.
 - The current recommendation from Public Health: "Mask wearing is recommended in indoor public spaces for all people 12 and older who are not yet fully vaccinated."
- Family members will provide cleaning supplies, hand washing facilities including paper towel, and sanitizer/tissues for their child/therapy area. EAP employees will be given access to the hand washing facilities.
- Family members will provide a clean therapy area that is disinfected immediately prior to the arrival of EAP staff. If additional cleaning is requested by EAP staff, I acknowledge that I will do so e.g. after a child sneezes, if the session moves to a different area of the home, etc.
- A window will be open in the therapy area or a fan will be used to promote air circulation.
- Family members will practice good hygiene including: washing hands or using sanitizer after blowing their nose or touching their face and covering their nose and mouth with elbow or tissue during coughs/sneezes with hand washing after. If the above is not present in your child's skill set, programming will be set up for your child to learn these skills.
- Please cancel in-person sessions if your child or other household member has 1 or more of the following symptoms:

- Fever, chills, cough, loss of sense of smell or taste, new or worsening cough, difficulty breathing
- **Follow health authority recommendations prior to resuming in-person sessions. The above symptoms require a Covid-19 test.**
- Please cancel in-person sessions if your child or other household member has 1 or more of the following symptoms:
 - Sore throat, loss of appetite, headache, body aches, extreme fatigue or tiredness, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea
 - **Follow health authority recommendations prior to resuming in-person sessions. If symptoms improve after 24 hours no Covid test is required.**
- Please cancel in-person sessions if your child or other household member has been in close contact with a someone who has Covid-19 OR the symptoms listed above.
- Please check your symptoms with the B.C. Self-Assessment Tool if unsure.
- If any household member travels **outside of Canada**, sessions must be cancelled or rescheduled virtually for 14 days following their return to Canada/the household. **Follow health authority recommendations prior to resuming in-person sessions** *Please provide as much notice as possible for any planned travel outside of Canada to your Supervising BCBA.*

Protocols for Client protection

- Family members will be responsible for providing all therapy materials. EAP staff will limit bringing materials into your home for your protection.
- EAP staff will be required to wear disposable gloves when toilet training is taking place during in- person services.
- EAP staff will be required to wash their hands before and after touching any food that is being used for self-care programming or reinforcement.
- EAP employees must sanitize hands immediately before entering client home. EAP employees must wash hands with water and soap for 20 seconds upon entering client home and after removing shoes. EAP employees will not eat food during in-person services.
- EAP employees will bring their own water bottle, hand sanitizer, tissues and any personally preferred personal protective equipment (e.g., masks).
- All EAP staff members involved in therapy will complete the EAP Employee COVID-19 Screening. Sessions will be switched to remote learning/virtual session or cancelled/re-scheduled if EAP staff have any COVID-19 symptoms. If there is illness in the EAP staff household, sessions will be cancelled/switched to online sessions for a minimum of 10 days from onset and 3 days symptom-free or as recommended by health authorities.
- If any EAP staff member travels outside of Canada, sessions will be cancelled for 14 days during the self-isolation period or will be re-scheduled as virtual sessions if appropriate for my child (or as recommended by health authorities).
- EAP staff members will practice good hygiene including: washing hands or using sanitizer after blowing their nose or touching their face and covering their nose and mouth with elbow or tissue during coughs/sneezes and washing hands after.

- Physical prompting and interactive play with my child will be kept to a minimum and will only be used with my consent.

Informed Consent for Guardian

I understand and acknowledge the risks involved to my child and family when EAP staff members enter my home. I understand and acknowledge the risks involved to EAP staff members when entering my home. To mitigate these risks for all parties, I agree to follow the protocols listed above.

Child's Name: _____

Guardian Name: _____

Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Guardian Name: _____

Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Note: All EAP staff will follow protocols listed above as per company policy. Protocols are reviewed with staff regularly and can be found on the EAP website.