

Short Term Support Services During a Pandemic

POLICY

We will provide essential short-term support services to consumers being discharged from a hospital during a pandemic on the provision that there is evidence provided of a positive or negative test to the disease on discharge from the hospital.

Staff and volunteers will not provide non-essential services to a consumer if they are unwell or meet any of the screening criteria of the disease.

PROCEDURES – COVID-19

Staff will ask the consumer the following questions at the consumers front door prior to entering the clients home and commencing services:

- Do you or anyone in the house have a fever or acute respiratory infection (cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose or loss of smell) that is not part of the person’s usual health condition?
- Have you been a close contact with a confirmed case of Covid-19?
- Have you been required to test for Covid-19 or have been asked to self-isolate?
- Are there any visitors present in the house who do not live here?

If the consumer answers yes to any of the screening questions, the staff member will return to their car and notify Westmont immediately.

Staff are required to wear a mask, follow standard infection control processes and practice social distancing where possible when providing services.

Staff who are aware of and consent to provide services to a client who has tested positive to Covid-19 or other another infectious virus or disease, will be provided with adequate training, support, and PPE to safely do so, and Rapid Antigen Test/s for self-monitoring. Staff will self-monitor for symptoms, advise Westmont immediately if any symptoms develop, undertake Rapid Antigen Test/s and follow current Department of Health Covid protocols.

Date approved:	July 2020	By Department:	DCC		
Date amended:	February 2022	By Department:	DCC	Key changes:	Essential services can be provided, Rapid Antigen Tests requirements
To be reviewed:	July 2023	By Department:		Key changes:	