

Progressive Pediatrics Therapy



COVID-19 Protocols for Therapy Sessions

The following is based on CDC guidance and recommendations from medical experts in infectious disease fields. This is what we feel is in everyone's best interest. "Phases" will not be based on specific dates; rather it will be based on CDC and governmental guidelines, and the improving health of the community in general. You will be notified prior to any changes in how therapy is being conducted. **ANYONE in a household displaying ANY signs of illness, regardless if it is a simple "runny nose", must be kept at home and follow CDC guidelines for COVID-19 testing and any applicable quarantining.**

Phase 1:

- A brief health screening questionnaire will be sent each day before a therapy session and must be responded to prior to entering a session.
- Therapists may choose not to allow a child to enter if they believe there is any health concern.
- As possible, the number of therapists at any given time may be limited. This may mean a temporary reduction in frequency of sessions to accommodate every child. Therapists' do their best to schedule in varying blocks of time in a given day so there will be minimal overlap.
- The therapist will meet the child at their car in the parking lot and perform a temperature screening. Once they enter they will immediately wash hands/use hand sanitizer. The child will repeat the process before being returned to their vehicle. No parents, caregivers, or siblings will be allowed in the office.
- Currently, face coverings are required for anyone over 2 years of age (or those medically unable) while conducting essential business. We will have a supply of face masks if needed. If your child cannot wear a mask, you must notify us prior to scheduling, and ideally they will be seen at the end of the day in order to ensure ample time to sanitize and to allow the ventilation system to filter the air.
- Social distancing guidelines will be followed to the greatest degree possible. Exceptions may include while a child is on suspended equipment, climbing elevated surfaces, etc. **To ensure safety for all, we will limit the type and amount of equipment being used during this phase.**
- Each session is limited to 45-50 minutes, including returning the child to their vehicle. The remaining 15 minutes will be used to thoroughly sanitize the areas and equipment before the next child enters the building. We are currently using hospital-grade sanitizer, specially designed to kill bacteria and viruses, use of disinfecting wipes and hand sanitizer.
- High efficiency air filters will be installed in the HVAC system, with the fan running 100% of the time to ensure good air circulation and filtration, air purifiers in every room, and use of an electronic atomizer to fully sterilize each day.

Phase 2:

- Same protocols as above, but in Phase 2 we will change as follows:
 - Multiple therapists, with their own clients, will be allowed into the office at the same time, but will actively keep separated in different rooms within the office.
 - To reduce the number of people in the office throughout the day, no parents or caregivers will be allowed in the office.
 - Social distancing and facemasks will continue until there are changes in CDC guidance and/or the executive order of the Governor of Illinois or local authorities.

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Phase 3:

- Health screening questionnaires will no longer be *required*; however, each parent or caregiver will be expected to practice responsible decision making related to any illness of the child AS WELL AS anyone within the household. If anyone in the household is ill or have interacted with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, sessions will be cancelled until all members of the household have returned to good health or completed quarantine.
- In Phase 3, multiple therapist's and clients will be allowed in the office at the same time. Efforts will continue for utilizing separate rooms and stagger drop off & pick up times to avoid congestion in the waiting area or office itself.
- Parents or caregivers will be allowed to wait in the waiting area if social distancing measures can be followed according to CDC guidelines, however this being a small and somewhat enclosed space, this will not be encouraged. Parents or caregivers will be allowed to enter the facility to drop off and pick up their child and to talk with the therapist; however, until further notice, siblings will not be allowed in the office unless they are specifically participating in the therapeutic process with the therapist's approval.
- A greater variety of therapeutic equipment will be reintroduced at the therapists' discretion.
- Sessions will continue to be structured to no more than 50-minutes of 1:1 time, with the remaining 10-minutes allowed to clean and sanitize any areas and equipment that was used prior to another client entering the office.