

Covid-19 Guidance 6

The specific BPC advice about clinical work in the latest lockdown, which started on 5 November and is expected to end on 2 December, is not different from the previous advice, available on <u>our website</u>.

Appointments for therapy with people in the same room are still allowed under the new lockdown rules, please refer to <u>our latest update</u>. However, as before, BPC is not suggesting that everyone should open their consulting rooms. Registrants, many of whom are over 60, should take their own health and domestic/personal situations into account in considering when it is safe, and they feel comfortable enough to see patients in the same room.

The BPC supports registrants in making this decision on an individual basis. They are also supported in making the decision about <u>which</u> patients might return.

Similarly, registrants who cannot fully control their own setting - e.g. shared toilet facilities, multiple use of the building, are supported in making individual decisions for their particular context.

BPC always recommends that the <u>latest government guidelines</u> are taken into account. There is also a useful <u>BBC article</u> about the need for fresh and circulating air when people are in the same room.

These guidelines can be read in conjunction with the <u>BPC guidelines 4 and 5</u> which detail how the setting might be made as safe as possible. Registrants will be supported and covered by their insurance if they have followed the guidelines as far as is possible in the unlikely event of a patient complaining they have contracted the virus from the consulting room.

Board

Professional Standards Committee

Registration Committee

17.11.20