

Dear Practitioner,

The Board has been working with the Ministry of Health to clarify when Podiatrists are able to provide Essential Treatment during COVID-19 Level FOUR. Late last night we received confirmation that in accordance **with the attached Guidelines**, any Podiatrist may continue to operate a service that:

- Responds to emergency and acute care needs
- Provides Community, Disability Support Services (DSS), Aged care services, Mental Health and Addiction Services, or support high risk and vulnerable client groups
- Prevents priority populations from being put at risk

The Ministry of Health have advised us that:

“Staff required to maintain operations are permitted to travel to and from their place of employment. Please ensure appropriate measures are in place to mitigate the risk of transmission between your staff, customers and the general public. This includes appropriate physical distancing, hand washing and sanitising using alcohol-based products. Podiatrists must use appropriate PPE. Please also ensure operations are unlikely to divert resources away from the New Zealand healthcare system”

You MUST follow the Podiatrists Board: COVID19 Level FOUR: Guidelines for Practice. This includes details on pre-treatment screening and notification of intention to treat. Please be mindful at all times that wherever possible, for the safety of the community, treatment that can be delayed, must be.

These Guidelines are subject to change. You will be notified of any changes as they occur, so please ensure you are checking your emails (and the Podiatrist Board website) daily.

Kind regards



Fiona Angus
Chair
Podiatrists Board of New Zealand