



## Client Illness Policy and Procedures

### COVID-19

Revised 8.19.2022

ABA of Wisconsin's client illness policies and procedures continue to be updated to reflect current CDC guidance regarding COVID-19. These policies and procedures will remain in effect until otherwise notified. The following policies and procedures apply to all clients receiving services through ABA of Wisconsin to ensure the health and safety of our clients and staff.

To help maintain the health of all clients and staff, we ask that all staff and clients strictly follow the sickness policy outlined below.

#### Cancellation Procedure:

- Please contact the main line at the center as soon as possible.
  - 262-200-0900, press "0"
  - During business hours:
    - Please speak with the Clinical Coordinator or Clinical Supervisor to report your child's absence.
  - Outside of business hours:
    - Please leave a voicemail message. Your call will be returned during business hours.
- Texts or emails to your child's BCBA or program supervisor may not be received prior to your child's scheduled start time. To ensure that your child is called out for their session, all cancellations must be made by calling the number above. If contacted directly, BCBAs and program supervisors will direct parents/guardians to follow the call out policy procedures, to ensure effective communication regarding the schedule.

#### General Sick policy and procedures

Fevers	<p>Temperatures above 100.4°F</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● An individual should be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications (Tylenol/acetaminophen, Advil/ibuprofen) for at least 24 hours before returning to therapy.</li></ul>
Common Respiratory Illness (including Flu, Pertussis, Common Cold, Croup, RSV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● If an individual has severe cold symptoms (hacking/harsh cough or a very runny nose) that interfere with their ability to participate in treatment activities, they should stay home until symptoms have improved.</li></ul>
Vomiting, Diarrhea, Stomach Ache (including gastroenteritis, salmonella, rotavirus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● An individual has 2 or more episodes of vomiting or diarrhea within 24 hours.</li><li>● An individual has stomach pain that continues for more than 2 hours or intermittent pain associated with fever or other symptoms.</li></ul>



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Sore Throat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● An individual with a very painful sore throat, white spots on the back of the throat, high fever, rash, stomach ache and/or headache should stay home and consider evaluation by a healthcare provider.</li><li>● If diagnosed with strep throat the individual must be on antibiotics for a minimum of 24 hours and be fever free without fever reducing medications before returning.</li><li>● An individual must be able to eat and drink to sustain energy for the entire duration of therapy.</li></ul>
Hand, Foot and Mouth/Fifth Disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● An individual with hand, foot and mouth disease is most contagious during the first week of illness. Healthcare providers can provide guidance on an appropriate return date.</li></ul>
Rash	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● If an individual has a new rash or rash that is unusual, consultation with a healthcare provider is required to see if the rash is safe for the individual to continue to attend therapy without risk of transmission to others.</li><li>● If the rash is open/draining and unable to be covered, the individual must stay home.</li></ul>
Ear Infection/Ear Pain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The individual should stay home until fever free without use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours.</li></ul>
Head Lice, Scabies, Ringworm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● The individual should stay home until after the first treatment.</li><li>● If treatment is completed the night of notification, individuals may come back the next day.</li></ul>

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- Symptoms are consistent with COVID-19:
  - New or worsening cough, shortness of breath/trouble breathing, new loss of taste or smell, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fever or chills, sore throat, unusual fatigue, muscle or body aches, runny nose or nasal congestion, or headache

If symptoms are consistent with COVID-19, your child may return when:

- If the COVID-19 test is positive, the individual may return 5 days after symptoms first started (day 0 is the day symptoms first appeared, count 5 days, day 6 is when the individual can return). Masking will be encouraged for 5 days following the individual's return.



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- If the COVID-19 test is negative, the individual may return as symptoms allow. See symptom grid below.
- If not tested for COVID-19, the individual may return as symptoms allow. See symptom grid below.

### Close Contact Definition

- **Close contact** is defined by CDC as someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to the test date) until the time the client is isolated.
  - Clients will be notified if they are identified as a close contact while at ABA therapy, regardless of vaccine status. Clients are encouraged to test on day 5 following an identified close contact.

### Testing

- A molecular (PCR) test is recommended; however, rapid and at-home tests will be accepted. Clients must submit a photo of the negative test and the date of test administration. All FDA testing guidelines for at home tests should be followed. Additional information can be found here:  
[https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/coronavirus-covid-19-and-medical-devices/home-otc-covid-19-diagnostic-tests?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery#list](https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/coronavirus-covid-19-and-medical-devices/home-otc-covid-19-diagnostic-tests?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery#list)

### Mask Policy

#### Clients:

- When Milwaukee County COVID-19 transmission rates are high (as per CDC), clients are encouraged to wear well-fitting masks at all times, except during meal times/when activity eating or drinking.

#### Staff Policy:

- Milwaukee County COVID-19 transmission rates are high (as per CDC):
  - ABA of Wisconsin requires all staff to wear well-fitting masks at all times, except during meal times/when actively eating or drinking.
- Milwaukee County COVID-19 transmission rates are medium or low (as per CDC):
  - Masks will be optional.
    - Please note that some employees may choose to continue to wear masks and employees wearing masks does not necessarily mean that they have had a close contact or recently confirmed case of COVID-19.

### Vaccination Information:

The CDC recommends that all individuals 6 months and older receive the COVID-19 vaccination series recommended for their age. ABA of Wisconsin does not require vaccination and will continue to follow CDC and DHS guidance for recommendations for quarantine and isolation. Clients are encouraged to consult with their doctor for any questions related to vaccination.



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#### Additional Information:

- Please note that if clients meet criteria to return to therapy, they may return with some ongoing symptoms as long as overall symptoms have improved and will not impact the client's ability to participate in therapy.
- Additional information regarding quarantine and quarantine length can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s1227-isolation-quarantine-guidance.html>
- We ask that all clients follow doctor's orders regarding quarantine and timelines for returning to therapy, no exceptions will be allowed.
- County COVID-19 transmission rates can be found at: [https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view?list\\_select\\_state=all\\_states&list\\_select\\_county=all\\_counties&data-type=CommunityLevels&null=CommunityLevels&list\\_select\\_map\\_data\\_metro=all](https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view?list_select_state=all_states&list_select_county=all_counties&data-type=CommunityLevels&null=CommunityLevels&list_select_map_data_metro=all).
  - Clients will be notified if there is a change in county transmission rates and/or masking requirements.