

## Patient consent for Face to Face (F2F) appointments at Harding Physiotherapy Ltd during Coronavirus

**Informed consent for treatment, and relating to COVID-19 risk, must be gained from each client prior to any face to face treatment. Please complete this form and bring with you to your appointment. Regrettably, without this completed form we are unable to see you.**

The Coronavirus is a highly infectious illness, causing a variety of symptoms, commonly fever, continuous cough and loss of taste or smell.

For many, if they become infected, they will likely experience mild to moderate respiratory illness. Some people, particularly older people and those with underlying medical issues (such as Cardiovascular disease, diabetes, long standing respiratory disease and cancers) are at risk of developing more severe symptoms, which may require hospitalisation, and in some cases people do not recover. There is currently no specific vaccine or proven effective treatment for Coronavirus. It is thought that the virus spreads through respiratory droplets (such as when you cough or sneeze) and through contact with contaminated surfaces.

It is currently thought that people are most contagious when they have symptoms, however it is possible that some spread of the virus may occur before people are symptomatic. We are unable to eliminate risk of transmission of the virus, but we do have measures in place to minimise this risk.

The risk of transmission can be reduced by maintaining 2m social distancing, regular hand washing, avoiding touching your face, regular disinfection of surfaces/equipment and limiting contact with persons outside of your household. Due to the hands on nature of physiotherapy, attending a face to face session will mean that we are unable to continually maintain social distancing - In order to provide you with hands on treatment we have to breach the 2m social distance.

**You must strongly consider the potential risk this poses to you as an individual, but also to other members of your household (particularly if they are shielding or vulnerable) and to our staff.**

**We strongly recommend everyone should consider accessing physiotherapy remotely, as this is the most effective way to limit risk to all parties.**

We are operating enhanced infection control procedures in the clinic to help manage risk of face to face appointments, as recommended by Government guidelines, and our Governing Body. This includes

- Attendance by appointment only – no walk ins. Attend your appointment alone.
- All persons attending the clinic (clients, staff and any other visitors) will be screened for potential coronavirus symptoms prior to entering. Anyone reporting possible symptoms (including staff) will not be granted access. Personal data will be maintained for use for contact tracing if required.
- Limiting number of people in the clinic at any one time (3 staff, 2 clients maximum) to promote social distancing
- Personal Protective Equipment is worn by Therapists (apron, gloves, Type IIR fluid resistant surgical face mask +/- eye protection) in line with PHE recommendations. Clients are asked to

