

An Important Update from the Infection Prevention Team

Keeping Your Cell Phone Germ Free While Caring for a COVID-Positive Client

6/3/20

The virus that causes COVID-19 can live on surfaces for 72 hours.

When possible, avoid using your personal cell phone in the home of a COVID-positive client or symptomatic client who is waiting for COVID test results.

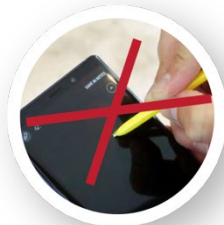


If taking phone into home:

- Place it in a disposable protective sleeve (plastic zip lock bag or plastic phone sleeve) to limit phone contamination.
- Do not place your phone directly on any client care surfaces. Instead, place your phone on a barrier on a clean, dry surface (as long as phone is in a protective sleeve/bag).

Disinfect the phone when your visit is complete:

- Remove your gloves and apply hand gel.
- Re-apply new gloves, and with gloved hands, remove the phone from disposable plastic sleeve, which gets discarded into trash bag.
- Place the phone on a clean, disposable barrier. Remove your gloves and re-apply hand gel.
- Re-apply new gloves and disinfect the phone with an EPA-registered disinfectant wipe listed on the COVID EPA disinfectant list or 70% alcohol. Be sure to leave the phone wet per manufacturers contact time.
- Please note, a phone case that can be removed and/or disinfected is recommended.



Important: Do not have clients touch cell phones or use a stylus to sign them. If a visit verification signature is needed, call your office prior to entering and after leaving the client care area.