



The COLLEGE
of PODIATRY



Yvette Mann Podiatry COVID-19 Policy as of 13th May 2020

Introduction

The health and safety of both patients and podiatrists is paramount.

Infection control standards at Yvette Mann Podiatry are always high, however additional measures are taken during COVID-19. This document is to be used in conjunction with The College of Podiatry (as outlined below) as well as advice from Public Health England and the UK Government.

1. The Decision Tree for Independent Practitioners allows us to screen patients to assess their suitability for clinical appointments.

2. Return to Practice - Risk Assessments on you and your staff.

3. Treatment Grid during COVID-19 - This document allows patients to be categorised into 1, 2 and 3 based on severity of their symptoms and thus allowing us to assess the need for the patient to attend the clinic. Patients will only be seen if they have 'Acute Conditions or limb threatening' (category 1), 'Debilitating or life threatening conditions' (Category 2), or if a patient who has Mild Conditions (category 3) is deemed at risk of progression into category 1 and 2.

4. Reopening Tool Kit

In addition to the above, Yvette Mann Podiatry will follow the procedures below which are specific to our practice.

Before booking the appointment

Patients will be triaged on the telephone prior to their appointment to ensure the patient meets current criteria in relation to the Decision Tree and the Treatment Grid. Patients that meet the criteria will be able to make an appointment with the clinic.

Payment and future appointments need to be made at this point.

If a patient or anyone in their household has a high temperature or is currently in isolation due to symptoms, they will not be allowed to keep their appointment and will have to delay that appointment by at least 2 weeks. This will be documented in the patient notes.

Those patients with a valid email will receive notification of clinics re opening, along with an online consent form which is to be filled out prior to the appointment. Those without email will need to bring a pen to fill in the relevant paperwork whilst having their treatment.

Patients will be asked to wear masks where possible.

On the day of the appointment

- The patient waits in the car until their appointment time.
- Patients will be asked to attend alone where possible.
- The patient will be asked to wash their hands with provided gel sanitisers.
- The patient will be led to the clinic room and doors will be opened by the clinician ensuring patient has minimal contact with any surfaces.
- In the clinical room, 2m distancing will be adhered as much as possible.
- After treatment, the patient will leave.

Additional Infection Control

At the start and end of the clinic and in between each patient, the following cleaning will take place using the effective surface cleaner or wipes.

- Door knobs
- Entire treatment couch
- Patients' chair in clinic
- Podiatrist's chair
- Podiatry screen (specifically pre-ordered for extra protection)
- Light
- Drawer handles, drill and any other items touched in the course of treatment
- Additionally, waiting areas will be cleared and there is a plastic protective screen at reception and floor markings of 2 meters.

This is in addition to our cleaning and sterilisation guidelines set by the College of Podiatry and Health Care and Professional Council (HCPC) which are adhered to already.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

The College of Podiatry currently directs podiatrists to use tables 2 and 4 when deciding which PPE to use:

- Gloves
- Apron
- Eye or face mask, depending on risk. Risk factors to be considered are which procedure, likelihood of patient being contagious and risk factors of the podiatrist for contracting COVID-19.
- Clogs or indoor shoes.

All clinical clothes will be taken home at the end of the day to be laundered.

This policy applies to both clinics at Holly Tree Surgery and Luck's Yard Clinic. This document may be updated in the future and will be at the practices and on the website.

Yvette Mann Podiatry May 2020

