

Mandatory STAR Institute Covid-19 Client Care Response Policy

Version 15.0 – 04/04/2023

STAR Institute is dedicated to the health, well-being and safety of its staff, clients, and client families. In keeping with the most current Public Health Orders from state and local health authorities, and under advisement from TriCounty health and the CDPHE, STAR Institute, as a healthcare provider, is able to maintain in-person and telehealth services for its clientele.

These mandatory guidelines are designed to protect YOU, our staff and the *medically vulnerable clients* that are seen for essential services at STAR Institute.

Telehealth Services

Telehealth services are available to any and all of STAR Institute’s clients and families. Services include (but are not limited to) one-to-one treatment sessions, parent education meetings, group sessions, and consultations. Families are encouraged to contact a STAR Institute Lead Therapist to develop a telehealth program to meet the client’s and family’s needs.

Please contact:

mim.ochsenbein@sensoryhealth.org for Occupational Therapy

carrie.dishlip@sensoryhealth.org for Speech and Language Therapy

rachel.balderamma@sensoryhealth.org for Mental Health & Feeding Services

In-Person Services

Please initial each statement to indicate you acknowledge and agree to the terms:

Unvaccinated¹ Colorado Families: 3-7 days prior to your family’s eval/program starting you and everyone planning to attend STAR Institute must test for COVID-19 with PCR testing AND be symptom-free. Please share copies of negative test results with your clinician or a member of the STAR Institute front desk team to be added to your client records.

Unvaccinated¹ Out-of-State Families: You may begin sessions at STAR while monitoring symptoms and remaining symptom-free. You will need to be tested 3-5 days with PCR testing after arriving in Colorado and provide proof of your negative results as soon as possible, to be added to your client records. (Testing needs to be completed after 3-5 days due to the incubation period of COVID-19; premature testing may not provide reliable results.)

COVID-19 Vaccinated Families (all vaccine-eligible individuals in household fully vaccinated²): Please share copies of vaccine cards with your clinician or a member of the STAR Institute front desk team to be added to your client records.

Testing is not required, but symptoms should be monitored. **If symptoms appear testing should be done immediately.** (Vaccinated individuals may still be possible transmitters of COVID-19 and individuals should continue to closely monitor symptoms and social distancing during their time at STAR.)

¹unvaccinated individuals include those who are not up-to-date on CDC recommended vaccines and boosters.

²fully vaccinated individuals as determined by CDC guidelines.

If an **unvaccinated*** STAR provider, client or family member has been **exposed** to any confirmed case of Covid19 in the last 5 days the session must be canceled. The individual should test 5 days following exposure or if they present symptoms.*

If the **vaccinated** STAR provider, client or family has been directly **exposed** to any confirmed case of Covid19 they should report the exposure to STAR Institute and be fully masked throughout the

session. It is recommended that the exposed individual gets tested 5 days following exposure or if symptoms appear. <i>Exposure is defined as being within 6 feet, for more than 15 minutes, without full PPE (including gloves and eye protection).</i>	
Upon arrival at STAR, check the temperature of everyone who will be entering the building. If any individual has an elevated temperature above typical for the individual, the session must be canceled (see note on suspected Covid below).	
Masks are not required onsite. Requests for mask usage can be made by STAR providers, staff, client, or client family.	
STAR staff and providers will clean all client areas, treatment areas, and equipment following each treatment as outlined by STAR Institute administration. Equipment that is waiting to be cleaned will be placed to the side and considered out of service.	

* Treatment can resume after 5 days **quarantine** has been observed

** See note on resuming services following suspected Covid19 below

You are responsible for maintaining these standards throughout your treatment program at STAR Institute and must inform STAR if you are unable to do so for any reason / your circumstances change.

Confirmed COVID-19 Case

If any member of the household is confirmed to have Covid-19 onsite treatment can only resume after:

- At least 1 day (24 hours) has passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and,
- At least 5 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, and
- Symptoms have improved.
- Masks must be worn following 10 days from onset of symptoms or positive COVID test.
- If the client is unable to wear a mask while at STAR, programming may resume 10 days after the onset of symptoms or positive test.

I have reviewed the information regarding treatment onsite at STAR, I understand the guidelines and have asked questions for clarification if necessary. My clinician has adequately explained everything herein and I agree to follow the guidelines in full. I understand that if I do not follow these guidelines STAR has the right to suspend the treatment program.

Clinician Name

Clinician Signature

Date

Client / Guardian Name

Client / Guardian Signature

Date