Guidance for clients of sex workers

Many sex workers continue to meet clients in-person. This guidance is intended to provide support using a harm reduction lens to help reduce the risks associated with in-person contact and to help keep workers and clients safe from COVID-19.

General recommendations

- Wash your hands regularly with soap and water.
- Do not see a sex worker if you have flu-like symptoms.
- Use the BC COVID-19 Symptoms Self-Assessment Tool to determine if you may need further testing.

Before meeting

- If you have any symptoms, have traveled outside of the province or country in the last 14 days, or have had contact with sick individuals – DO NOT see a sex worker and DO NOT engage in physical sexual encounters in general.
- Take a shower and wash your hands and face thoroughly.
- Be respectful of a worker’s health and safety requests: if they are meeting you in person, they are putting themselves at risk.

REDUCE OR MINIMIZE…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kissing, saliva exchange</th>
<th>Web-based, phone-based or text-based services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mouth contact with skin (such as bareback blowjobs) and/or toys</td>
<td>Positions that minimize face-to-face contact</td>
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<tr>
<td>Direct contact with bodily fluids</td>
<td>Condoms, dental dams and gloves</td>
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<tr>
<td>Group sex</td>
<td>Seeing only one sex worker during this period of time to minimize possible spread</td>
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</tbody>
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After meeting

- Wash your hands and face.
- DO NOT shame a worker for not being willing to engage in sex acts which may increase risk of COVID-19.

Additional resources

- Sex Work and COVID-19
- COVID-19 and Substance Use

STI testing

Use GetCheckedOnline for referral to LifeLabs locations for STI testing or contact the 12th Avenue Clinic.