

# 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

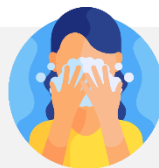
- If you have any symptoms, have traveled outside of the province or country in the last 14 days, or have had contact with sick individuals – DO NOT see a sex worker and DO NOT engage in physical sexual encounters in general.
- Take a shower and wash your hands and face thoroughly.
- Be respectful of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



REDUCE OR MINIMIZE...	INSTEAD TRY...
<p><b>✗ Kissing, saliva exchange</b></p>	<p><b>✓ Web-based, phone-based or text-based services</b></p>
<p><b>✗ Mouth contact with skin (such as bareback blowjobs) and/or toys</b></p>	<p><b>✓ Positions that minimize face-to-face contact</b></p>
<p><b>✗ Direct contact with bodily fluids</b></p>	<p><b>✓ Condoms, dental dams and gloves</b></p>
<p><b>✗ Group sex</b></p>	<p><b>✓ Seeing only one sex worker during this period of time to minimize possible spread</b></p>

## 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](#)
- [Navigating COVID-19 for Sex Workers & Allies: Info & Support Guide](#)
- [COVID-19 and Substance Use](#)



## STI testing

Use [GetCheckedOnline](#) for referral to LifeLabs locations for STI testing or contact the [12<sup>th</sup> Avenue Clinic](#).