



In-person Meeting Indoor or Outdoor

In the May 13, 2021 CDC Guidance, they stated that:

“Fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing masks or physically distancing, **except** where **required by** federal, **state, local**, tribal, or territorial laws, rules and regulations, including local business and **workplace guidance**.¹”

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH)² and Cal-OSHA³ have not changed their requirements for **fully vaccinated individuals in workplace area**. In compliance of this, **all VMRC employees, contractors and visitors must continue to wear a mask, physically distance themselves and follow the safety precautions** in place when in **VMRC property and during work hours**.

It is expected that Community Care Licensing licensed facilities^{4,5} will abide by the CCL PINs⁶ regarding visitation, and those licensed by CDPH will abide by the All Facilities Letter (AFL)^{7,8} regarding visitation.

When it has been a mutual agreement between the consumer/family and Service Coordinator (SC) to meet in-person indoor or outdoor, these visits should have prior approval of the SC's supervisor. The expectation is for the SC/staff to meet at the natural environment/home of the consumer. Meeting outdoors on the office grounds/premises will need prior approval from Department Director. Six feet physical distancing should be observed at all times.

¹ CDC. May 13, 2021. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>

² CDPH. September 18, 2020. <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Workplace-Outbreak-Employer-Guidance.aspx#>

³ CalOSHA. July 29, 2020. <https://files.covid19.ca.gov/pdf/guidance-office-workspaces--en.pdf>

⁴ CCL PIN CCP. March 19, 2021. <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/CCLD/PINs/2020/CCP/PIN-20-22-CCP.pdf>

⁵ CCL PIN ASC. March 19, 2021. <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/CCLD/PINs/2021/ASC/PIN-21-17-ASC.pdf>

⁶ CCL All Provider Information Notices (PIN). <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/cdss-programs/community-care-licensing/covid-19-information-and-resources>

⁷ CDPH. May 13, 2021. <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-21-14.aspx>

⁸ CDPH. May 13, 2021. <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/LNCAFL21.aspx>

To ensure health and safety of the consumer/family and SC during COVID-19 pandemic, the following will be observed:

1. Before meeting with someone, please ask if the individual is sick or someone they live with is sick; or had a COVID-19 exposure. If they are, please reschedule your visit accordingly.
2. Pre-meeting preparation: finish as much paperwork/documentation prior to the in-person meeting. The goal is to have as less time as possible in the home to limit exposure.
3. The meeting will be held in an area where more than 6 feet physical distancing will be observed at all times. Guidelines from CCL, CDPH and local county public health offices will be followed. To decrease exposure as defined by CDC, it is recommended that meetings be less than 15 minutes and more than 6 feet away.
4. Attendees such as consumer, family member, support staff, SC, etc., are required to wear and keep on at all times the following:
 - For indoor: mask or face covering, and face shield or eye goggles⁹¹⁰¹¹¹².
 - For outdoor: mask or face covering. Face shield or eye goggles optional.
 - VMRC staff may wear disposable gowns if they want to. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) are provided by VMRC to their staff and consumers.
5. No handshakes or fist bumps or hugging.
6. Avoid touching face.
7. Have a hand sanitizer handy to practice frequent hand hygiene when soap and water is not available.
8. For consumers who live in care homes, follow the infection control guidelines as approved the licensing authority.

Risk stratification: the more precautions done, the lower the risk of getting COVID-19. Virtual meeting is lower risk than in-person meeting. Wearing mask, face shield/goggles and staying more than 6 feet away in an open area while having an in-person meeting outside the home poses lower risk of acquiring COVID-19.

We realize that this emphasis on safety precautions may bring out a lot of anxiety. Please feel free to contact your manager or HR to seek Employee Assistance Program.

⁹ Journal of American Medical Association (JAMA). April 19, 2020.

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2765525>

¹⁰ Journal of American Medical Association (JAMA). August 17, 2020.

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2769693>

¹¹ The Lancet. June 01, 2020. [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(20\)31142-9/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)31142-9/fulltext)

¹² MedRxiv.org. October 11, 2020. <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.07.06.20147090v2.full-text>