



Speech Language Pathology in Motion, PLLC

300 Wheeler Road, Suite 106, Hauppauge, NY 11788

829 Old Nichols Road, Islandia, NY 11749

TEL: (631) 479-3393 ex. 3

FAX: (631) 479-3358

WEB: www.speechinmotion.com

Speech Language Pathology in Motion Sickness Policies:

In-person treatment may be denied or discontinued at any time at the discretion of the therapist/SLPIM if it is determined that continuing the session may put the patient or treatment team at risk for any reason, including but not limited to observed signs/symptoms of illness.

Clients are encouraged to participate in therapy delivered via telepractice during periods of mild illness or quarantine if they are well enough to do so to minimize disruptions to treatment.

Therapy sessions should be cancelled if the person bringing the client to therapy and/or the client themselves have any of the following symptoms:

1. **Active symptoms of a viral or bacterial infection/cold/flu:** This includes but is not limited to runny nose, congestion, headache, sore throat, coughing, sneezing, fever, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and aches/chills. Clients who are unwell should not attend therapy, and may resume therapy after being symptom free for a period of 3 days without the help of medication.
2. **Uncontrolled seasonal allergies:** Clients who present with sneezing and/or coughing due to allergies are not able to be seen for in person therapy at this time, as it is not possible to know if the client is ill or experiencing allergies.
3. **A rash.** Resume therapy once free from rash, itching and fever for 24 hours or cleared by a medical doctor.
4. **Presence of head lice.** Resume therapy following treatment and full elimination of lice.
5. **An active eye infection (itching, redness and/or discharge).** Resume therapy when free from discharge for 24 hours and/or with clearance from a medical doctor.
6. **A recent medical emergency:** A number of medical emergencies, accidents or illnesses may require medical clearance prior to resuming therapy (i.e. a fracture, seizure activity, etc.). If the client has had a recent medical emergency or urgent care, emergency room or hospital visit please notify your therapist prior to coming for treatment.

COVID-19 Related Sickness Policies:

- Clients who become ill with COVID-19 symptoms or who test positive for COVID-19 within 14 days of attending an in person therapy session agree to inform Speech Language Pathology in Motion for contact tracing purposes.
- Clients who test positive for COVID-19 may not return to in person therapy until 10 days have passed since the start of symptoms, client is symptom free, and client is cleared by a doctor to resume therapy.
- If the client, or anyone residing in the home who is not fully vaccinated against COVID-19 has been in contact with a person who is confirmed to be COVID-19 positive, the client must remain symptom free for a period of 10 days before returning to in person treatment.
- In accordance with the NYS-DOH guidelines, clients who have had an illness that included any of the signs or symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, chills, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, cough, new loss of taste, new loss of smell, Nausea or vomiting and/or Diarrhea) must meet one of the following three criteria in order to return to in person therapy services:
 1. At least 10 days have passed *since symptoms first appeared* and client and all who reside in the home have been symptom free for a period of 72 hours (3 days) without the use of fever-reducing medications.
 2. All who reside in the home have been symptom free for a period of 72 hours (3 days) without the use of fever-reducing medications and client has received a negative COVID-19 test.



Speech Language Pathology in Motion, PLLC

300 Wheeler Road, Suite 106, Hauppauge, NY 11788

829 Old Nichols Road, Islandia, NY 11749

TEL: (631) 479-3393 ex. 3

FAX: (631) 479-3358

WEB: www.speechinmotion.com

3. All who reside in the home must be symptom free for a period of 72 hours (3 days) without the use of fever-reducing medications and present a doctor's note clearing them to resume in person activities.

This policy is subject to change based on the guidance provided by the NYS Department of Health and the CDC.

Additional Considerations:

The American Speech Language and Hearing Association (ASHA) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) have recommend utilizing telepractice when possible to deliver treatment during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In person speech language pathology services present inherent risks as they require close contact between the patient and therapist/treatment team for an extended period. SLPIM has implemented infection control measures and is complying with CDC, federal, state, and local government guidelines. There is an inherent possibility of contracting COVID-19 when receiving in person care, despite infection control measures taken by both Speech Language Pathology in Motion, Occupational Therapy in Motion and Pal-O-Mine Equestrian. The following information contained in this document should be considered when determining if in person speech language pathology services are appropriate for the patient at this time.

The following conditions may place a patient at higher risk when receiving in person treatment:

- Patient has an underlying medical condition which may exacerbate COVID-19 symptoms.
- Patient has difficulty understanding or following social distancing guidelines, performing appropriate hand hygiene, and/or adhering to safety protocols.
- Patient is unable to wear a face covering or mask.
- Patient requires physical contact or assistance from the therapist/treatment team to assist with balance, ambulating, transferring and/or mobility.
- Patient requires physical contact or assistance from therapist/treatment team due to behavior difficulties (i.e. needing their hand held/risk for elopement, decreased safety awareness, presence of aggressive or self-injurious behaviors etc.).
- Patient is not able to refrain from touching his/her face/mouth/nose during treatment.
- Patient has difficulty independently managing saliva and/or frequently drools.
- Patient is prone to placing toys and/or therapy materials in or around his/her mouth.

Additional considerations for determining if in-person treatment will be more beneficial than telepractice:

- Will the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) by therapist impact client's ability to benefit from treatment?
- Will SLP services delivered with the use of PPE and reduced physical contact be more effective then services delivered via telepractice?

To receive in-person treatment at this time, the patient or their parent/guardian must agree to adhere to the policies above.

In addition, the patient or the patient's parent/guardian must indicate that they feel that the benefits of in-person treatment delivery outweigh the potential risks.