



Building Skills through Therapeutic Play

COVID 19 Onsite Patient Care Policy, updated 1-5-2022

Boston Sensory Solutions is dedicated to the health and safety of its staff, patients, and families.

Boston Sensory Solutions, as a healthcare provider, requires adherence to the following guidelines for Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy services.

- **General Precautions across Community Settings:** In order to participate in clinic based services at Boston Sensory Solutions, all persons (patients, families, and caregivers) agree to adhere to social distancing guidelines, wearing of masks/ face coverings, and frequent hand washing at all times, including in their activities outside of Boston Sensory Solutions.
- **Travel:** If a Boston Sensory Solutions staff member, patient or family member plans travel beyond the Commonwealth of MA, the administrative team at Boston Sensory Solutions must be notified. Unvaccinated people must avoid in clinic services for 10 days post travel. These visits will be replaced with telehealth sessions to ensure continuity of care. Alternately, this unvaccinated person may wait 3 days after returning to MA and be tested with PCR testing (not rapid testing). Negative PCR test results must be shared with clinic in order to facilitate a return to in clinic services.
 - **Exemption-** Fully vaccinated individuals (inclusive of booster shots when more than 6 months has passed from completion of initial vaccine series) are exempt from the above noted travel restrictions.
- **Signs of Illness:** If a Boston Sensory Solutions staff member, patient or family member is exhibiting any signs of illness (elevated temperature, congestion, sneezing, coughing, difficulty breathing, vomiting, GI distress, sore throat, headache, body aches) prior to an in clinic session, the session(s) must be transitioned to telehealth for ten (10) consecutive days after symptom onset or until a negative PCR test result has been shared with the clinic. If a patient is too ill to participate in a telehealth session, we will first try to reschedule the session to a later date that week; if this is not possible due to the patient's illness, the session will be cancelled that week. This applies to both vaccinated and unvaccinated people in our clinic.
- **Potential Exposures:** If a Boston Sensory Solutions staff member, patient or family member has come into contact with anyone who reports a confirmed or suspected positive case of Covid19 within the last 10 days, the in clinic session(s) must be transitioned to a telehealth session(s) for a minimum of 10 days post exposure. Alternately, exposed individual may take a PCR test on or after day 8. Negative PCR test results must be shared with clinic in order to facilitate a return to in clinic services. This applies to both vaccinated and unvaccinated people in our clinic.
- **Positive Covid 19 in Immediate Households:** If any Boston Sensory Solutions staff member, patient, family member or member of their household is confirmed or suspected to have Covid19, in clinic services must immediately be transitioned to telehealth services. In clinic services can only resume after that individual's:

- Resolution of fever (below 100 degrees Fahrenheit) without the use of fever-reducing medications for 24 consecutive hours **and**
- Resolution of respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) **and**
- At least 10 days have passed *since symptoms first appeared, or positive test taken in absence of symptoms*

OR

- Negative results of PCR test taken **on or after day 8** of household member diagnosis. PCR results must be received and shared with clinic for approval to return to in clinic services. Rapid tests do not meet this criteria.
- This guideline applies to both vaccinated and unvaccinated people in our clinic.

- **On Site Precautions:**

- **Prescreening Check ins:** Boston Sensory Solutions uses the MyMedBot app for in clinic appointment prescreening. **Each caregiver must complete the prescreen at least two hours before and no later than 10am on the weekday of an in clinic session. The prescreen must be complete by 7pm on Friday evening for Saturday appointments.**
 - If a patient or caregiver is “flagged” by the app, caregiver must call the Covid screening phone as instructed on the app in order to be cleared for the in clinic session immediately. If the person cannot be cleared, the visit must be replaced with a telehealth session. If the MedBot app is not complete or flags resolved by 10am on appointment day or 7pm on Friday night for Saturday appointments, the visit will automatically be transitioned to telehealth.
- **Parent Accompaniment:** One parent must accompany each child into in clinic sessions. Additional family members or care providers are not permitted in clinic. The accompanying caregiver must remain in the treatment room with the therapist and child for the duration of the session unless specific permission has been granted by the primary therapist to waive this requirement out of clinical necessity.
- **N95 or KN95 Masks:** Onsite at all times Boston Sensory Solutions staff members, patients, and family members will wear N95 or KN 95 masks. Disposable or cloth masks do not meet the masking criteria, Patients under 2 years old are exempt from this mandate.
- **Intermittent Transition to Telehealth:** The majority of visits are now intended to occur in clinic. In clinic appointments will be transitioned to telehealth only if above concerns re symptoms, travel, exposure, or suspected infection by Covid 19 exist. Once testing or quarantine requirements are met, appointments must return to in clinic visits. Visits can no longer be transitioned to telehealth for non-Covid related concerns.

The above specific guidelines and safety measures will be followed within Boston Sensory Solutions to ensure the safety of all staff members, patients and family members.