

ASPR TRACIE Technical Assistance Request

Request Receipt Date (by ASPR TRACIE): August 17, 2022

Response Date: August 19, 2022

Type of TA Request: Standard

Request:

ASPR TRACIE received a request for current COVID-19 policies and other information related to returning to the office, particularly resources applicable to an outpatient mental health counseling setting.

Response:

The ASPR TRACIE Team reviewed existing resources, including those on our [COVID-19 Resources Page](#) and [Disaster Behavioral Health](#).

Please refer to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [Coronavirus Disease 2019 webpage](#) for the most up-to-date guidance on COVID-19 outbreak management.

I. Relevant Resources

Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response. (2020). [Managing the Human Side of Reopening Your Behavioral Health Facility or Practice during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This resource lists responses to frequently asked questions about reopening behavioral health practices during the COVID-19 pandemic. Each question is hyperlinked and takes the user to a separate page where additional information is provided.

American Psychiatric Association. (2022). [COVID-19/Coronavirus Information Hub](#).

This web page provides links to resources related to the COVID-19 pandemic response along with a variety of guidance documents to support practice and patient care. The APA Resources section includes several resources related to returning to in-person care.

ASPR TRACIE. (2022). [COVID-19 Healthcare System Operations Resources](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response.

This resource collection focuses on adaptations to usual healthcare system operations and strategies to maintain provision of patient care during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Operational Modifications categories may be particularly helpful.

ASPR TRACIE. (2022). [COVID-19 Outpatient Resources](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response.

This resource collection includes plans, tools, templates, checklists, and other COVID-19 resources applicable to outpatient settings.

ASPR TRACIE. (2020). [Healthcare System Considerations for Resumption of Services during COVID-19](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response.

This resource highlights interrelated issues for the healthcare system to consider as they address their current status, restore services that have been curbed, maintain readiness for potential future waves of COVID-19 patients, and adapt to improve their operations based on lessons learned.

Boring-Bray, W. (2020). [Counseling After COVID-19: What Should Providers Do?](#) Psychology Today.

The author provides recommendations regarding the when and how should counselors return to in-person therapy and steps to evaluate during the process.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2020). [Infection Control Guidance for Healthcare Professionals about Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This web page offers current infection prevention guidance and information.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2021). [Non-Hospital Settings and COVID-19](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This web page provides resources for healthcare workers in non-hospital settings including ambulatory care.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2022). [Project Firstline](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This website provides information on a national training collaborative for healthcare infection prevention and control. It offers numerous training and education resources for healthcare workers, including a section on COVID-19.

New York State Office of Addiction Services and Support. (2022). [COVID-19 Guidance for Behavioral Health Providers](#).

This web page provides resources for behavioral health providers, including reopening guidance that was updated in July 2022.

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. (n.d.). [Guidance](#). (Accessed 8/18/2022.)

This web page has links to guidance documents issued by the state health department in response to COVID-19. It includes a section on behavioral health settings.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. (2022). [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

SAMHSA provides resources and guidance for providers during the COVID-19 response. Additional federal links are provided to assist healthcare providers.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. (2022). [Statewide Program for Infection Control and Epidemiology \(SPICE\)](#).

This website provides guidance videos and resources related to patient care and prevention of healthcare associated infections.