



## Covid-19 Level 3 Update

The Osteopathic Council would like to confirm that we have received advice that osteopaths are allowed to practice in a restricted fashion under Alert Level 3, in line with other Allied Health professions. We have linked a letter from the Ministry of Health detailing what considerations must be made while practicing under Alert Level 3.

Although the primary method of care should still be via telehealth or other ways of working remotely, the guidance in this letter allows practitioners to treat face-to-face in the case of 'urgent care'. Please note, however, the restrictive definition of what 'urgent care' means – face-to-face care should still only occur in exceptional circumstances, and Level 3 will not see a return to 'business as usual' for Allied Healthcare.

The Osteopathic Council has also released guidance, linked at the end of this statement, to help practitioners determine whether face-to-face treatment is warranted, and the considerations that must be made when offering such a service. These guidelines are consistent with other Allied Health professions, such as physiotherapy.

We will continue to update the profession as and when we can with any new information, but please be aware that we also need to ensure that the information we have is clear and correct before sharing it with you.

### Links

[Alert Level 3 for community allied health letter – 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2020](#)

[Seeing patients at Alert Level 3 – Guidance](#)

[Am I able to provide osteopathic services under alert level 3 – Flowchart](#)

[Registration of face to face consultations – Guidance](#)

Ngā mihi

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**Chair**

**Kaunihera Whakanao Uaiwi**

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