



Protecting Staff and Clients



Preparing for the new normal



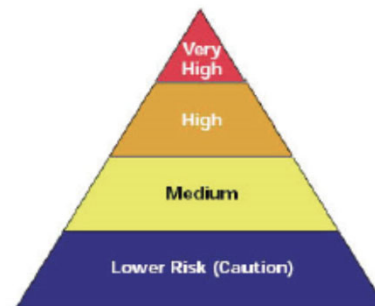
The basic rules apply to everyone

- Regular hand washing
 - soap and water or alcohol-based sanitizer
 - benzalkonium chloride not as effective (CDC)
- Social distancing & no direct contact
- Avoid touching eyes, nose & mouth
- Good respiratory hygiene
- Surgical/cloth face-masks
- Stay at home if sick

There are no guarantees

- No one-size-fits-all
- Guidance for each situation only
- Implement realistic measures
- Responsibility shared by divers and dive operators

Occupational Risk Pyramid
for COVID-19



Determining what to do: your risk assessment

- Review your facility & operation
 - determine areas of real concern
- Assess the reality of the risks
 - Probability of an exposure that could have consequences
- Address these through realistic & effective mitigation steps
 - Engineering controls, administrative controls, or PPE
- Ensure that you monitor the effectiveness of your controls
 - Are they working and are staff complying with them



Planning for return to business

- Prepare specific procedures based on risk assessment
 - Ensure they are realistic, repeatable and likely to be effective
- Develop disinfecting processes
- Decide on and acquire PPE
- Consider layout of shop, classroom & facilities
 - Access control
 - Movement of people
- Mostly common sense
 -once you have done your risk assessment

Protecting your staff

- Limit transmission
 - Limit access
 - applies to staff & visitors
 - Limit people
 - numbers in facility & accompanying visitors
 - Limit contact
 - staff to staff; staff to client
 - Disinfect
 - facility, dive equipment, instruct clients in disinfection
 - Specific procedures: high-risk areas & activities

Train

Train

Train

Protecting your staff

- Screen & observe
 - prior to arrival (bookings) or on arrival
 - diligence in reviewing health questionnaires
 - look for typical signs
- Appropriate PPE
 - educate, issue and monitor use
 - masks, goggles or face-shields, coveralls/aprons
- Signage: access, PPE, client instructions
- Educate & monitor & maintain discipline
- Train, train, train: complacency is the enemy



Protecting your staff

- Disinfect
 - Change rooms
 - Counter tops
 - Door handles
 - Card-reading machines
 - Communal equipment (like computers, tools)
 - Classroom tables and chairs
 - Training equipment
 - *Implement realistic measures*
 - *Responsibility shared by divers and dive operators.*



Protecting your clients

- Limit transmission
 - Clients care of their personal equipment
 - storage, handling
 - have them rinse/disinfect gear at home if possible
 - Perhaps close showers until further notice
 - Shower at home or outside
 - Educate
 - access to areas
 - strict infection control and
 - disinfection procedures

Brief

Brief

Brief

Protecting your clients

- Limit transmission
 - Social distancing
 - limit gathering in groups
 - sitting close & personal contact
 - Diligent completion of health forms
 - consider adding additional questions (verbal or written)
 - observe for undue signs prior to commencement of activities
 - Maximize eLearning if possible or as applicable
 - Keep rental areas free from clients
 - Keep separate areas for clean and then used equipment

Brief

Brief

Brief



Protecting your clients

- Disinfect
 - Encourage hand-cleaning on entrance
 - Disinfect all common areas & surfaces
 - Disinfect classroom tables and chairs
 - Limit/wipe down any equipment that might be tried on
 - Disinfect rental gear



Disinfection methods

- Disinfectant solution
 - Should be separate from rinse water
 - Product should specify scuba or respirators on EPA registration
 - Follow directions for dilution and contact time



UVC light as a disinfectant

- Research is variable
 - Effectiveness is in question
 - Research shows variation in time needed to kill SARS-CoV-2
- It's not practical
 - UV light does not go around corners
 - All surfaces must be exposed to the light
 - This would require complete disassembly of equipment
- It's not safe
 - UVC light is extremely harmful to humans

Wetsuit disinfection

- Use an EPA registered disinfectant
 - The Product's EPA registration should specify wetsuits or neoprene
 - Follow directions for use
- Soap and water
 - Be sure to use mechanical action, soaking is not enough



What if my product does not have an EPA registration number or is not on List N?

- Products sold in the United States have EPA registration numbers
 - If a product is not sold in the US it will not have one
 - Check with your country's government, many have similar registration systems
- If the product has an EPA registration number, check List N and the product's registration document
 - The product's registration should specify scuba or respirators



What to look for in a dive shop

- There is no one-size-fits-all recommendation
- Ask about infection control and disinfection procedures
- If they don't seem adequate to you, dive elsewhere
- Put the shop in contact with us at RiskMitigation@DAN.org



Resources

- Additional guidance
 - OSHA, EPA & CDC
 - <https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3990.pdf>
- Questions about infection control & disinfection:
 - RiskMitigation@DAN.org
- For COVID-19 diving medical questions:
 - Medic@DAN.org
- DAN COVID-19 webpage
 - <https://www.diversalertnetwork.org/covid-19/>

