



Government Report Update

On Monday, the government released more information regarding easing lockdown arrangements, following the UK Prime Minister's announcement the previous day. Please note that this information applies to England only - guidelines for the rest of the UK remain unchanged. The government has said that, assuming 5 strict tests are met, some businesses including hairdressers may be permitted to re-open from 4th July as long as they maintain social distancing. The BBC analysis of the report states that businesses such as beauty salons may be permitted to open "significantly later", depending on infection rates reducing sufficiently. Specific details pertaining to our profession remain unclear, however, it currently seems unlikely that work where social distancing is not possible, such as massage, will not be permitted to recommence at the start of July. You can read the BBC's article about the report here – <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/explainers-52530518>

Government Lobbying

The new Integrated Health Collaborative (IHC) has written to the government, inviting them to work with the IHC to produce Covid-19 secure workplace guidelines specifically for the complementary health professions, also to prioritise a safe return to work for our professions as soon as is possible.

Insurance

Many of you hold public liability insurance with Balens Ltd. They have a Covid-19 Update page on their website with links to various pieces of helpful information. This includes details about temporarily unoccupied premises for business protection policy holders, legal advice and support, plus a general insurance Q&A. They are asking policy holders to email them instead of phoning at the moment. <https://www.balens.co.uk/covid.aspx>

In Essence

Hopefully, you have now received your Spring/Summer edition of *In Essence*. The postal system is currently experiencing delays, but if you have not yet received your copy it should be with you soon. We have prepared a treasure trove of articles for you. Discover the therapeutic potential of cannabis extract, clays, and powders. Whilst international travel might not be possible right now, let the journal take you on a journey to an artisan rose producer in Bulgaria, via quick visits to check out the aromatherapy world in New Zealand, Hungary, and Malaysia. Find out more about the benefits of TMJ massage and read an explanation of the recent re-classification of rosemary by the head of the research team himself. Plus, much more! Happy reading.

Do you know that there is an *In Essence* archive in the Members' Area of the website? If you have mislaid any old journals, or if you want to search for an article on a specific topic, then check out the archive and consolidated index -

<https://ifparoma.org>

Pandemic Information Sources

We know that many of you are keeping as up-to-date as possible with government announcements about the coronavirus situation and we recommend that you continue to do this. Our key recommended information sources for accurate and up-to-date information are -

UK government: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

BBC: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/coronavirus>

NHS: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

World Health Organisation: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

UK Regional Public Health bodies: -

Public Health England: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

Public Health Scotland: <https://publichealthscotland.scot>

Public Health Wales: <https://phw.nhs.wales>

Public Health Agency for Northern Ireland: <https://www.publichealth.hscni.net>

Keep safe and well,
IFPA Board of Trustees and Office Team

13th May 2020