



Q: I am concerned about the wellbeing of my patients as well as my family. How do I balance those obligations?

A: Providing care to persons during a pandemic may create anxiety and concern for one's own welfare, and the welfare of one's family and friends. LPNs, as regulated professionals, have an obligation to their clients to provide safe, effective, compassionate and ethical care. This may compete with one's personal obligations (e.g. immunocompromised family member at home). The expectation is that LPNs provide care using appropriate safety precautions in accordance with legislation and guidelines from governments and employers, and in keeping with best practices. This is in the interest of protecting your client, yourself and other members of society.

You have an obligation to identify and disclose to the appropriate supervisor/employer any conflict (personal or legal) that makes it difficult to participate in an intervention (CCPNR Code of Ethics for LPNs, Principle 5.4).

Clear and honest communication is required as the LPN works through any ethical dilemmas.