COVID-19 Process for Employee Exposures/Infections

Recommended steps a medical practice can take when an employee has an exposure, based on CDC Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations post pandemic

Healthcare facilities, in consultation with public health authorities, should use clinical judgment as well as the principles outlined in this guidance to assign risk and determine need for work restrictions.

IDENTIFY all close contacts (within six feet for greater than 15 minutes) to an individual with confirmed or suspected COVID-19, beginning two days before the person became symptomatic or tested positive until last day of contact.

NO RISK: No identified employees in contact with individual with confirmed or suspected COVID-19.

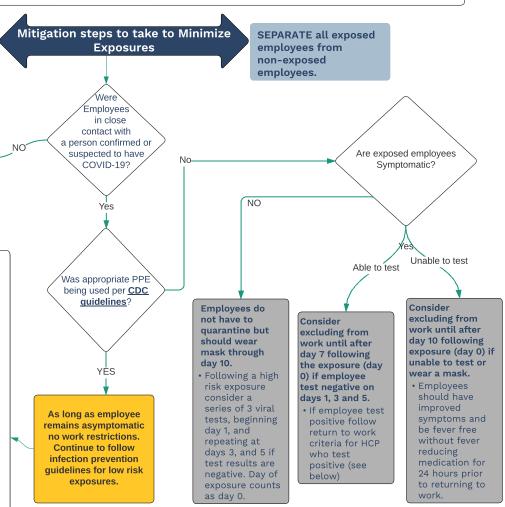
<u>Disinfect and clean:</u> All work spaces that were potentially in contact with the individual being tested should be disinfected and cleaned following <u>CDC criteria</u> with an <u>EPA-approved</u> <u>disinfectant.</u>

CDC Infection prevention and control for HCP LOW-RISK

Recommend Self-Monitor

Perform **self-monitoring** with delegated supervision until 10 days after the last potential exposure. Asymptomatic healthcare professionals (HCP) are not restricted from work. Employees in this category should:

- <u>Pre-screen:</u> Check their temperature before reporting to work.
 - The HCP on days scheduled to work, must report fever and any symptoms consistent with COVID to designated person prior to showing up at work.
 - If afebrile and asymptomatic before leaving home, may report to work.
- <u>Perform Regular monitoring:</u> Remain alert for <u>symptoms</u> consistent with COVID-19 (e.g., cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, sudden loss of taste or smell).
 - o If they develop a fever (measured temperature ≥100.0° F or subjective fever) OR <u>symptoms</u> consistent with COVID-19, immediately self-isolate (separate themselves from others), and notify designated practice contact/manager to coordinate consultation and referral to a healthcare provider for further evaluation and <u>testing</u>.
- Wear a mask: The employee should wear a face mask at all times while in the workplace for 10 days after last exposure.
- <u>Social distance:</u> The employee should practice social distancing (six feet apart) as work duties permit in the workplace.
- Sick employees: If the employee becomes sick or test positive, they should isolate immediately. Surfaces in their workspace should be cleaned and disinfected. Information on persons who had contact with the ill employee during the time the employee had symptoms or tested positive if asymptomatic and two days prior to symptoms should be compiled. Others at the facility with prolonged (15 minutes or longer) close contact (within six feet) of the employee during this time would be considered exposed.



CDC Return to work Criteria for HCP who test positive or develop symptoms consistent with COVID infection.

For HCP who are symptomatic with mild to moderate illness: exclude from work for 10 days if no testing or 7 days if resolution of fever without medications; improved symptoms, and employee has a negative test* within 48 hours prior to returning to work. Countdown begins as day 0, starting with day of onset of symptoms.

For HCP who are symptomatic with severe to critical illness: exclude from work at least 10 days and up to 20 days since symptoms first appeared, and free of fever for at least 24 hours without any fever reducing medications; and symptoms have improved. Countdown begins as day 0, starting with day of onset of symptoms.

For HCP who are asymptomatic: return to work after 7 days passed since their first positive test and employee has a negative test* within 48 hours prior to returning to work; or 10 days if testing not performed or a positive test occurs at days 5 - 7. Countdown begins at day 0, starting with first positive test

*Either a NAAT (molecular) or antigen test may be used. If using an antigen test, HCP should have a negative test obtained on day 5 and again 48 hours later