



System Department

Supersedes:

Section: Employee Health

Subject: Covid-19 Exposure Protocol

Number: EH027

Attachments:

Date Effective: March 2020

Date Reviewed: March 2020

**For Employee Health Department Only
Covid-19 Exposure Protocol**

PURPOSE

To provide timely assessment of risk, monitoring and work restriction decisions for healthcare worker (HCW) with potential exposure to a patient with confirmed Covid-19. All reported exposures or potential exposures to Covid-19 will be investigated and evaluated on a case by case basis.

Definitions:

Self-monitoring means HCW should monitor themselves for fever by taking their temperature twice a day and remain alert for respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath, sore throat).

Active monitoring means that the state or local public health authority assumes responsibility for establishing regular communication with potentially exposed people to assess for the presence of fever or respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath, sore throat).

RedCap Application will be used by employee health for monitoring of HCW. HCW will be instructed how to use this at enrollment

All monitoring is until 14 days after last exposure

Close contact for healthcare exposures is defined as follows: a) being within approximately 6 feet (2 meters), of a person with COVID-19 for a prolonged period of time (such as caring for or visiting the patient; or sitting within 6 feet of the patient in a healthcare waiting area or room); or b) having unprotected direct contact with infectious secretions or excretions of the patient (e.g., being coughed on, touching used tissues with a bare hand). Data are limited for definitions of close contact. Data is insufficient to precisely define the duration of time that constitutes a prolonged exposure- more than a few minutes or "passing by".

High-risk exposures refer to HCW who have had prolonged close contact with patients with COVID-19 who were not wearing a facemask while HCW nose and mouth were exposed to material potentially infectious with the virus causing COVID-19. **NEITHER HCW NOR PATIENT IN MASK**

Medium-risk exposures generally include HCW who had prolonged close contact with patients with COVID-19 who were wearing a facemask while HCW nose and mouth were exposed to material potentially infectious with the virus causing COVID-19. **HCW NO MASK; PATIENT IN MASK**

Low-risk exposures generally refer to brief interactions with patients with COVID-19 or prolonged close contact with patients who were wearing a facemask for source control while HCW were wearing a facemask or respirator. **BOTH HCW AND PATIENT IN SOME TYPE OF MASK**

No-risk exposures involves no direct patient contact or entry into active patient management areas

Above are examples of exposures and other situations will arise that risk category will have to be discussed with medical directors of employee health and infection prevention

Prolonged (more than a few minutes) close contact with a COVID-19 patient who WAS wearing a facemask.

RiskFactors	Exposure Category	Recommended monitoring	Work Restrictions
HCW PPE: none	Medium	Active-RedCap Monitoring	Exclude from work for 14 days after last exposure
HCW PPE: no facemask, respirator, or PAPR	Medium	Active-RedCap Monitoring	Exclude from work for 14 days after last exposure
HCW PPE: no eye protection	Low	Self-RedCap Monitoring	None
HCW PPE: no gloves or gowns	Low	Self-RedCap Monitoring	None
HCW PPE: proper PPE but facemask instead of N95	Low	Self-RedCap Monitoring	None

Prolonged (more than a few minutes) close contact with a COVID-19 patient who WAS NOT wearing a facemask

Risk Factors	Exposure Category	Recommended monitoring	Work Restrictions
HCW PPE:none	High	Active-RedCap Monitoring	Exclude from work for 14 days after last exposure
HCW PPE: no facemask, respirator, or PAPR	High	Active-RedCap Monitoring	Exclude from work for 14 days after last exposure
HCW PPE: no eye protection	Medium	Active-RedCap Monitoring	Exclude from work for 14 days after last exposure
HCW PPE: no gloves or gowns	Low	Self-RedCap Monitoring	None
HCW PPE: proper PPE but facemask instead of N95	Low	Self-RedCap Monitoring	None

PROCEDURE

If HCW in any risk category defined above develops any symptoms (e.g., fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat) compatible with COVID-19 infection, they must do the following:

- 1) If at work, put on face mask and remove self from patient care. HCW will contact Employee Health via the OUCH pager and supervisor immediately. Wait for instructions on testing.
- 2) If at home, self-quarantine and contact EH via the OUCH pager. Wait for instructions on testing. Stay home until further instruction based on test result

EH will evaluate the HCW by collecting a detailed account of the events and document in the Employee Health-Occupational Health encounter in the electronic medical record (EMR). The Covid 19 Data Collection Tool will be used to assist in the data collection process to ensure all necessary information is collected for reporting purposes.

EH will contact the medical director (Dr. Starlin/Dr Rupp) on call and discuss the findings; RPP and Covid-19 testing will be arranged. HCW will need to self-quarantine at home while waiting for results of test and further instructions. Do not return to work or move about community until further notice from EH

HCW in the high- or medium-risk category should undergo active monitoring within the REDCap App and be restricted from work in any healthcare setting until 14 days after their last exposure.

HCW in the *low-risk* category should perform self-monitoring with delegated supervision until 14 days after the last potential exposure. Asymptomatic HCW in this category are not restricted from work. They should check their temperature twice daily and remain alert for respiratory symptoms consistent with COVID-19. They should ensure they are afebrile and asymptomatic before leaving home and reporting for work. If they do not have fever or respiratory symptoms they may report to work.

Employee Return to Work will be based on exposure risk, symptoms and test results. This will be determined by medical directors of employee health and infection prevention

GENERAL INFORMATION

HCW who Adhere to All Recommended Infection Prevention and Control Practices

Proper adherence to currently recommended infection control practices, including all recommended PPE, should protect HCW having prolonged close contact with patients infected with COVID-19.

HCW in the *no identifiable risk* category do not require monitoring or restriction from work

REFERENCES

Based on CDC guidance for Risk Assessment and Public Health Management of Healthcare Personnel with Potential Exposure in a Healthcare Setting to Patients with Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html>

Staff Accountability:

Employee Health March 2020

Employee Health Medical Director March 2020

Department Approval

Signed | s |: Julia Goodro
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Department: Employee Health

Administrative Approval

Signed | s |: Laurie Willburn
Title: Total Rewards & HR Operations Director