Protocol for Health Care Workers
(Health care personnel interacting with patients for medical, nursing, dental, mental health care; radiology/lab as well as OT/PT/RT and pharmacist)

Exposed – Asymptomatic

- 14 day quarantine.
  - Twice-daily temperature check.
  - Monitor for respiratory symptoms.
  - If source patient ruled out, can lift quarantine.
  - If source patient tests positive even if HCW tests negative, 14-day quarantine still required if tested prior to the end of the quarantine period

- Can work wearing a surgical mask (if allowed by employer).

- If asymptomatic, can be released from quarantine after 12:01 AM on the 14th day by the designated medical staff, Infection Preventionist or Employee Health nurse for the facility.

- If ANY symptoms, exclude from work and refer for testing (see below).

Exposed – Symptomatic

- Exclude from work, 14 day quarantine. Instruct in home isolation.
  - Twice-daily temperature check
  - Monitor for respiratory symptoms.

- Refer for testing.
  - While test is pending continue home isolation.
  - If test is negative and no longer symptomatic:
    - If source patient ruled out, discontinue isolation and clear for work.
    - If source patient was positive, complete 14 day quarantine. May return to work with a surgical mask as above (if allowed by employer) when completely asymptomatic and afebrile for 72 hours. Must be cleared by Public Health.
  
- If test is negative, but still symptomatic, an individualized assessment of other potential diagnosis (e.g., flu) is required for whether repeat testing may be indicated.

Positive COVID-19 Test

Symptomatic Health Care Workers with suspected or confirmed COVID-19:

To remain on home isolation until:

- At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the user fever-reducing medication and improvement in respiratory symptoms. (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and,
- At least 10 days have passed since last positive test
- Must be cleared by Public Health- clearance letter will be provided.

Health Care Workers with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 who have not had any symptoms:

To remain on home isolation until 10 days have passed since the date of their first positive COVID 19 diagnostic test assuming they have not subsequently developed symptoms since their positive test. If they develop symptoms, then the protocol for symptomatic individuals should be followed.

- Must be cleared by Public Health- clearance letter will be provided.

Note: Asymptomatic COVID-19 positive HCW can work wearing full PPE but only with COVID-19 positive patients.