Protocol for DOC/EOC Workers

DOC/EOC assigned workers are essential for our COVID response. To ensure the safety of all personnel working in the DOC/EOC, the following protocol is being implemented at the direction of the Public Health Officer.

If an DOC/EOC assigned worker reports being exposed to a symptomatic household member or other close contact, the worker will:

- Notify the section chief
- Not report to the DOC/EOC, or regular work location

An Occupational Health Nurse (OHN) will contact the worker to assess the symptoms of the close contact and interview the person if needed. If the OHN determines symptoms are consistent with COVID, OHN will contact Disease Control Nurse to complete assessment and determine next steps.

Exposed – Asymptomatic

- 14 day quarantine.
  - Twice-daily temperature check.
  - Monitor for respiratory and other symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 (e.g. new loss of taste or smell).
- If source patient ruled out, quarantine can be lifted
- If source patient is positive, refer DOC/EOC worker for PCR testing if has been at least 5-7 days since date of exposure. 14-day quarantine is still required, despite a negative test, if tested prior to the end of the quarantine period.
- If asymptomatic, can be released from quarantine after 12:01 AM on the 14th day.
- If worker develops ANY symptoms, exclude from work, and refer for PCR testing (see below).
- May not apply to the following: Policy Group, Branch Directors, Deputies, Medical Advisors, Unit Leaders and Group Supervisors. Consult PHO and/or operations chief for disposition.

Exposed – Symptomatic

- Exclude from work Instruct in home isolation.
  - Twice-daily temperature check
  - Monitor for worsening of respiratory symptoms and development of other symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 (e.g. new loss of taste or smell).
- 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 is positive, complete 14 day quarantine. May return to work with a surgical mask (if allowed by employer) when completely asymptomatic and afebrile for 24 hours.
If test is negative, but still symptomatic, an individualized assessment for other potential diagnosis (e.g., flu) is required to determine whether repeat testing is indicated.

Positive COVID-19 Test

Symptomatic EOC Worker with suspected or confirmed COVID-19:
Exclude from work until all conditions are met:
  • Resolution of fever for at least 24 hours after last fever spike, without the use of fever-reducing medication and improvement in symptoms. (e.g., cough, shortness of breath and sore throat).
  • At least 10 days have passed since last positive test.
  • Encourage not to re-test.

EOC Worker with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 who never had any symptoms:
To remain on home isolation until:
  • 10 days have passed since the date of their last positive COVID 19 diagnostic test assuming they have not subsequently developed symptoms.
  • Encourage not to re-test.
  • If they develop symptoms, then the protocol for symptomatic individuals should be used.