Guidance for Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers in Healthcare, Public Health, Law Enforcement, Public Safety, First Responders and Those Working in Residential/Shelter Facilities and Social Services Who Have Been Exposed to COVID-19

Updated June 6, 2020

These guidelines for Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers in healthcare, public health, law enforcement, public safety, first responders and those working in residential/shelter facilities and social services should be followed and shared with the authority in charge of any exposed, asymptomatic personnel.

For this guidance, a <u>close contact</u> of a person suspected or known to have COVID-19 refers to a worker, who works in **healthcare, public health, law enforcement, public safety, first responders, and those working in residential/shelter facilities and social services** (as defined in the attached document) who have close contact (within six feet) of person(s) with COVID-19. It is strongly recommended that the exposed worker self-quarantine for 14 days from the time of exposure. **Please refer to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance for exposures warranting work restrictions for asymptomatic healthcare personnel (HCP). Healthcare workers wearing full and appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) are not considered exposed and do not need to quarantine.**

Employers may consider allowing asymptomatic close contacts who have had an exposure to a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 to continue to work <u>after all options to improve staffing have been exhausted.</u> These close contacts shall report temperature and absence of symptoms* each day prior to starting work. Temperature and symptom checks every four hours are required. Employers shall have exposed close contacts wear a surgical facemask while at work for the 14 days after the exposure.

* Fever is defined as either a measured temperature of higher than 100° F or subjective fever. Note that fever may be intermittent or may not be present in some cases, such as those who are elderly, immunosuppressed, or taking certain medications (e.g., NSAIDs).
The symptoms of COVID-19 include fever and chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, muscle or body aches, runny nose or stuffy nose, sore throat, headache, fatigue, nausea or vomiting, and recent loss of taste or smell. People with COVID-19 have experienced a range of different symptoms. As we learn more about the virus, we know that some people with COVID-19 have only experienced one or two mild symptoms. An Essential Critical Infrastructure Worker who develops symptoms should call their personal healthcare provider for medical advice.