

# Summary Risk Classification and Work Restrictions for Healthcare Providers Following Exposure to Persons (patients or community) with Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) – Updated 12/2020

HEALTHCARE SETTING Exposure Risk Assessment	Exposure Category <sup>a</sup>	Work Restrictions for Asymptomatic Healthcare Provider Summary
<b>Provider with exposure (prolonged close contact<sup>b</sup>) to Source (patient or provider) with COVID-19 who is wearing a mask within 48 hours of symptom onset</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Healthcare Provider (HCP) PPE: Not wearing respiratory protection</li> </ul>	Medium <sup>c</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to work as long as remain asymptomatic, follow universal mask and eye protection protocol</li> <li>Continue to fill out PennOpen Pass daily for symptom screening</li> <li>Offer testing on Day 5-7 following exposure</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HCP PPE: Not wearing eye protection, gown or glove</li> </ul>	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to work, follow universal mask and eye protection protocol, daily PennOpen Pass symptom screening</li> </ul>
<b>Provider with exposure (prolonged close contact<sup>b</sup>) to Source (patient or provider) with COVID-19 who is not wearing mask within 48 hours of symptom onset</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HCP performing aerosol generating procedure</li> </ul>	Low to High <sup>c</sup> , based on PPE worn (See AGP Document)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For High Risk: quarantine at home for 7 days, test on day 5-7<sup>d</sup> from exposure and return to work on day 8 (results of testing must be available prior to return to work)</li> <li>For Medium Risk: continue to work, offer testing day 5-7 from exposure, daily PennOpen Pass screening</li> <li>For Low Risk: continue to work, follow universal mask and eye protection protocol</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HCP PPE: not wearing mask or eye protection</li> </ul>	Medium <sup>c</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to work as long as remain asymptomatic, follow universal mask and eye protection protocol</li> <li>Continue to fill out PennOpen Pass daily for symptom screening</li> <li>Offer testing on Day 5-7 following exposure</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HCP PPE: not wearing gown or gloves</li> </ul>	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No work restrictions</li> </ul>
<b>Patient with exposure (prolonged close contact<sup>b</sup>) to Source (patient or provider) with COVID-19 who is wearing a mask within 48 hours of symptom onset</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exposed patient wearing a mask</li> </ul>	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No quarantine (outpatient) or isolation of patient (inpatient) recommended</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exposed patient not wearing mask</li> </ul>	Low to Medium <sup>c</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For outpatients, provider teams and entity Infection Control will discuss exposure risk assessment and counsel patient on the need for home 10-day quarantine, if indicated</li> <li>For inpatients, provider teams and entity Infection Control will discuss exposure risk assessment and place patient in single room on droplet and contact precautions for 10 days, if indicated</li> </ul>
<b>Patient with exposure (prolonged close contact<sup>b</sup>) to Source (patient or provider) with COVID-19 who is not wearing a mask within 48 hours of symptom onset</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exposed patient not wearing mask</li> </ul>	Medium to High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For outpatients: quarantine at home for 10 days after exposure, recommend testing day 5-7 from exposure (patient should discuss with PCP or outpatient care team)</li> <li>For inpatients: place in single room on droplet and contact precautions for 10 days from exposure, offer testing on day 5-7 from exposure. If discharged home prior to 10 days, patient should complete duration of quarantine at home. If discharged to facility or congregate setting, accepting facility should be alerted of patient's exposure and quarantine duration. Home health care agencies should also be notified.</li> </ul>

<sup>a</sup> Final judgment on risk factors and exposure category are determined by **entity Infection Control**.

<sup>b</sup> **Prolonged close contact for healthcare exposures is defined as being within approximately 6 feet (2 meters) of a person with COVID-19 for at least 15 consecutive minutes.** On 10/21/2020, the CDC updated its definition of close contact to "someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a **cumulative** total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period". In accordance with PA DOH recommendations as of 10/26/2020, we will continue to use at least 15 **consecutive** minutes of exposure at a distance of 6 feet or less as our operational definition for "close contact", given this type of prolonged exposure appears to present the greatest risk. However, infection control will review circumstances of HCPs with multiple <15 min consecutive exposures and the nature of these exposures, and may make an individual risk assessment in this setting.

<sup>c</sup> Managers must notify their entity infection control of **all medium or high risk exposures**.

<sup>a</sup> Final judgment on risk factors and exposure category are determined by **entity Infection Control**.

<sup>c</sup> Managers must notify their entity infection control of **all medium or high risk exposures**.

<sup>d</sup> If employee declines testing after high risk healthcare setting exposures, quarantine duration extends to 10 days post-exposure and employee can return to work on day 11 as long as asymptomatic (without testing)

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COMMUNITY Exposure Risk Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Household member (including children)</li> <li>Intimate partner</li> <li>Prolonged close community contact</li> <li>Individual providing care in a household without using recommended PPE</li> </ul>		Exposure Category <sup>a</sup>	Work Restrictions for Asymptomatic Healthcare Provider Summary
Provider with community exposure (prolonged close contact <sup>b</sup> ) to Source with COVID-19 within 48 hours of symptom onset			
Community contact is household member with <b>confirmed COVID-19</b> with continued sustained contact		High <sup>c</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarantine at home until <u>7</u> days after COVID-19 positive household contact or intimate partner is CLEARED from isolation, offer testing day 5-7 from household contact's symptom onset</li> </ul>
Community contact is household member with <b>confirmed COVID-19</b> with ability to completely isolate within the home or separate domesticities OR non-household member with > 2 hours of UNMASKED contact within 6 feet		High <sup>c</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self-quarantine at home for <u>7</u> days from last contact, offer testing day 5-7 from exposure</li> </ul>
Community contact with <b>confirmed COVID-19</b> and UNMASKED contact was >15 minutes but < 2 hours within 6 feet		Medium <sup>c</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to work as long as remain asymptomatic, follow universal mask and eye protection</li> <li>Continue to fill out PennOpen Pass daily for symptom screening</li> <li>Offer testing Day 5-7 following exposure</li> </ul>
Community contact with symptoms of COVID-19 <b>with test results pending</b>	Community contact has <b>known COVID-19 exposure</b> within past 14 days and is household member	Presumed High <sup>c</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self-quarantine at home until community contact's test results known</li> <li>If community contact tests positive, convert to high risk exposure management (above)</li> <li>If community contact tests negative, can return to work as long as HCP remains asymptomatic, follow universal masking and eye protection protocol</li> </ul>
	Community contact has <b>known COVID-19 exposure</b> within past 14 days and is NOT a household member	Presumed Medium <sup>c</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to work as long as remain asymptomatic, follow universal mask and eye protection</li> <li>Continue to fill out PennOpen Pass daily for symptom screening</li> <li>If community contact positive, offer testing on Day 5-7 following exposure</li> </ul>
	Community contact has <b>NO or unknown COVID-19 exposure</b> within past 14 days	Presumed Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to work as long as employee remains asymptomatic, follow universal masking</li> <li>If community contact tests positive, convert to high risk exposure management (above)</li> <li>If community contact tests negative, continue to work as long as HCP remains asymptomatic, follow universal masking and eye protection protocols</li> </ul>
Community contact w/ symptoms of COVID-19 and <b>NO PLANS to be tested</b>		Presumed Low to High <sup>c</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please discuss individually with Infection Control</li> </ul>

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<sup>b</sup> **Prolonged close contact for healthcare exposures is defined as being within approximately 6 feet (2 meters) of a person with COVID-19 for at least 15 consecutive minutes.** On 10/21/2020, the CDC updated its definition of close contact to "someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a **cumulative** total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period". In accordance with PA DOH recommendations as of 10/26/2020, we will continue to use at least 15 **consecutive** minutes of exposure at a distance of 6 feet or less as our operational definition for "close contact", given this type of prolonged exposure appears to present the greatest risk. However, infection control will review circumstances of HCPs with multiple <15 min consecutive exposures and the nature of these exposures, and may make an individual risk assessment in this setting.

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Community contact is asymptomatic but was exposed to someone with COVID-19	No exposure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to work as long as HCP remains asymptomatic, follow universal masking</li> <li>If community contact develops symptoms and/or tests positive, convert to known positive risk exposure management (if HCP had contact within 48 hours of symptom onset)</li> </ul>
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This guidance is intended to assist with risk assessment, monitoring and work restriction decisions for HCP. These scenarios do not cover all potential exposure scenarios and should not replace individual assessments of risk, and the clinical judgment made by Occupational Medicine (OM) and infection Control (IC) leadership.

## Strategies to Mitigate HCP Staffing Shortages:

Maintaining staffing during a pandemic is essential to the safe delivery of patient care, and to ensuring a safe work environment for HCP. As such Occupational Medicine, Infection Control and entity leadership may consider, on a case-by-case basis, permitting specific HCP to return to work without meeting all return to work criteria as outlined above. Asymptomatic exposed HCP may be permitted to work as a crisis capacity strategy to address staffing shortages if they wear a facemask for 14 days after the exposure.

## REFERENCES:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/contact-tracing/contact-tracing-plan/contact-tracing.html>

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/Documents/HAN/2020-PAHAN-533-10-26-ADV%20-%20Additional.pdf>

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

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/return-to-work.html>

<sup>a</sup> Final judgment on risk factors and exposure category are determined by **entity Infection Control**.

<sup>b</sup> **Prolonged close contact for healthcare exposures is defined as being within approximately 6 feet (2 meters) of a person with COVID-19 for at least 15 consecutive minutes.** On 10/21/2020, the CDC updated its definition of close contact to “someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a **cumulative** total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period”. In accordance with PA DOH recommendations as of 10/26/2020, we will continue to use at least 15 **consecutive** minutes of exposure at a distance of 6 feet or less as our operational definition for “close contact”, given this type of prolonged exposure appears to present the greatest risk. However, infection control will review circumstances of HCPs with multiple <15 min consecutive exposures and the nature of these exposures, and may make an individual risk assessment in this setting.

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