

PROTOCOL FOR COVID EXPOSURES VOLUNTOWN MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES

Close Contact to a Positive Case:

- Ideally, a close contact should be quarantined for 14 days from the last day of exposure to the infected person. However, if the close contact is essential to the continuity of operations for the municipality, the close contact can continue to work with the following recommendations:
 - a. Must always wear a mask and stay 6 feet away from others
 - b. Should not be in a vehicle with others
 - c. Monitor for symptoms and must leave work if any develop and get tested. They must stay home isolated from others while awaiting results.
- The close contact can be tested to establish a baseline, but a negative test does not mean they will not become infected. It can take up to 14 days to become infected which is why the quarantine period is 14 days.
- A negative COVID test does not negate the need for a 14-day quarantine.
- A contact of a close contact does not need be quarantined or be concerned. Example: if a spouse was exposed to someone with COVID-19 (close contact) they need to quarantine; however, the other spouse is considered a contact of a contact and does not need to quarantine.

Symptomatic/Positive Case:

- As soon as any symptoms develop, the employee must leave work and plan to be tested. See UNCASHD Health District website www.uncashd.org or call 2-1-1 for testing locations.
- The employee must quarantine at home while waiting for the results.
- If the results come back positive, the employee must isolate at home away from family members for 10 days beginning on the day their symptom(s) started or from the date of the positive test if asymptomatic. Example: Cough started on 10/1, they must isolate until 10/11 and may return to work on 10/12 if their symptoms are improved and they have been fever free for 24 hours without using fever reducing medication. Further testing is not recommended, as tests may continue to be positive due to RNA fragments still present. Research has shown that people are not infectious after 9 days.
- Employees should report positive test results to their supervisor, who will notify UNCASHD so contact tracing can be started.
- Contact tracing: Individuals who test positive should look back 48 hours before the symptoms started and make a list of close contacts (<6 feet for 15 minutes or more). A person is infectious 48 hours before symptoms start. UNCASHD contact tracers will need this information to perform their duties.
- Supervisors should work with the positive individual to determine close contacts within the workplace.
- The positive case needs to take their temperature and monitor symptoms daily.
- The household of the positive case must quarantine for 14 days starting from the date/time that the person isolated self from others. They should monitor their temperature and any symptoms daily.

Any questions, please call 860-639-5130 and ask to speak to Patrick McCormack, or email at doh@uncashd.com.

Approved at BOS meeting, 10/13/2020

