

# **COVID-19 CAROLINA O&P COMPREHENSIVE SAFETY PLAN**

## **EMPLOYEE SCREENING**

Carolina O&P is not actively screening employees for symptoms as they come in for work. It is the employee's responsibility to stay home if sick or experiencing any specific COVID-19 symptoms. If an employee reports to work not feeling well, their supervisor may send them home.

## **COVID-19 EMPLOYEE TESTING**

If a COVID-19 test is administered to any employee, management must be contacted on the day test was taken and when the results are obtained. Employees may NOT report to work until the test results are obtained.

- Positive test results with symptoms:
  - Employee is to be excluded from work until 10 days since symptoms first appeared; and
  - 24 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; and
  - Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving.
- Positive test results with no symptoms:
  - Employee will be excluded from work 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. The 10 days start on the date the test was taken.
- Negative test results as a Person A: Employee may immediately return to work
- Negative test results as a Person B: Employee must still complete minimum 7-day self-quarantine even if you immediately test negative for COVID-19 or feel healthy, you should stay home (quarantine) since symptoms may appear in this time frame. Self monitoring should continue up to 14 days after exposure.
  - Asymptomatic Person B may return to work after 7 days if they have tested negative at the end of the quarantine (testing date should be within 48 hours of time frame ending).
  - Asymptomatic Person B may return to work after 10 days without testing.
- \*\*People who have previously tested positive for COVID-19 and completely recovered do not need to quarantine or get tested again for up to 3 months as long as they do not develop symptoms again.

If COVID-19 has been ruled out and an alternate diagnosis was given (i.e. tested positive for Influenza), criteria for return to work should be based on that diagnosis.

## **WORKING WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS/HAD COVID-19**

Person "A": Person who has tested positive for COVID-19 or is showing symptoms. They are either hospitalized or quarantined depending on how sick they are.

Person "B": Facility employee who has been potentially COVID-19 introduced in some way to person A.

- Being within approximately 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 for a prolonged period for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (such as caring for or visiting the person: or sitting within 6 feet of the person in a healthcare waiting area or room)
- Having unprotected direct contact with infectious secretions or excretions of the person (being coughed on, touching used tissue with bare hand)
- Management will assist in determining which employees are high, medium, or low risk for exposure after investigation.

Person "C": Any facility employee who has been potentially COVID-19 introduced to person B, and does not use any shared spaces or equipment with person A.

- This is considered secondhand exposure. There is no need to quarantine, but need to remain diligent, pay attention to how you feel, etc.

## **SOCIAL DISTANCING RECOMMENDATIONS**

- All employees and patients should try to maintain 6 feet apart when possible. If employees' workstations are less than six feet apart, please move desks to follow this recommendation.
- Do not share space or equipment when possible. If this is not possible, employees should wash their hands before and after using the shared equipment. Clean and sanitize equipment between uses.
- Please be sure to stay at least 6 feet apart when speaking with a patient at the counter.
- If unable to immediately room patients - All chairs in the waiting area should be spaced 6 feet apart. If you have the room in your facility, please remove extra chairs for the time being to avoid congregating in lobby/waiting areas.
- If the facility is at capacity (lobby full based on the 6 feet requirement) offer patients a different appointment time or the option to wait outside until another party leaves the building.

## **MASK REQUIREMENTS**

Any essential services providing goods and services and face-to-face interaction with the public or close contact with goods that the public purchases shall wear facial coverings (refer to CDC guidance). Please refer to recent guidance (COVID-19 Mask Policy) emailed out stating all employees coming into direct contact with patients should utilize a face mask or other type of face covering.

[HTTPS://WWW.CDC.GOV/CORONAVIRUS/2019-NCOV/PREVENT-GETTING-SICK/DIY-CLOTH-FACE-COVERINGS.HTML](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html)

## **PATIENT DAILY SCREENING**

The questions are listed below. If they answer YES to any of these questions they will be required to reschedule.

- Question 1: Have you traveled recently to either a foreign country or domestically?
- Question 2: Have you been exposed to a person with a confirmed case of COVID-19 or someone who has been required to self-quarantine?
- Question 3: Does the patient have any of the following symptoms:
  - Fever or chills
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Fatigue
  - Muscle or body aches
  - Headache
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Sore throat
  - Congestion or runny nose
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Diarrhea

## **OFFICE CLEANING**

It is the Office Manager and Clinical Managers' responsibility to make sure their office is thoroughly wiped down daily. There is a Cleaning log to be completed daily. If additional cleaning supplies are required, please reach out to Tim Fraylick.

- Office Managers and their team are responsible for the front desk area- all countertops, armrests on waiting room chairs, desks, keyboards, kiosks, doorknobs, etc.
- Clinical Managers and their team are responsible for the patient exam rooms and lab area- exam benches, doorknobs, counter surfaces, work bench areas, etc.
- Turn in your cleaning logs to Melissa Kramer each Friday – this will be reviewed on a weekly basis.

## **VACCINATED EMPLOYEES**

Employees that have received both doses of a COVID19 vaccine are considered “immune”. Subsequently, if a vaccinated employee has a COVID19 exposure (i.e. would be a Person B) they should still inform HR and their supervisor. Quarantine will not be necessary unless symptoms develop. If you are vaccinated, exposed to COVID19, and develop symptoms it is recommended you get tested for COVID19.

Employees that have only received one dose of a vaccine and are exposed to COVID19 OR develop symptoms of COVID19 should follow normal protocols. Please inform HR and your supervisor. It is also recommended you contact your physician that administered the vaccine. Some side effects are common when receiving a vaccine.

All employees receiving the vaccine should inform HR. This helps the management team conduct risk assessments and assess any necessary quarantine protocols. Currently, the vaccine is voluntary. As more information becomes available from the CDC & SC DHEC, this policy will be updated.