After 10-day isolation, if symptoms have improved and no fever for at least 24 hours without fever-reducing medicine, worker may return to work after Day 10.

If symptoms develop, retest as soon as possible. Home isolate for 10 days after symptom onset. Quarantine close contacts. *

If no symptoms develop, worker may return to work after Day 14. *

DAILY SCREENING AT HOME OR WORK

*Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever (≥100.4°F) or chills, fatigue (more tired than usual), headache, muscle aches, cough, nasal congestion or runny nose, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, abdominal pain, loss of appetite, diarrhea, nausea or vomiting.

**Close contact means being within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period, or having direct exposure to respiratory secretions.

VDH Algorithm for Evaluating Non-Critical Infrastructure Workers with COVID-19 Symptoms or Exposures

HEALTHCARE PROVIDER EVALUATION

*Testing – PCR or antigen (Ag) testing is acceptable. If an Ag test is negative and clinical suspicion for COVID-19 is high, confirm with PCR, ideally within 2 days of the initial Ag test. If PCR testing is not available, clinical discretion may be used in whether to recommend the patient isolate. Those who have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past three months and recovered and most people who are fully vaccinated for COVID-19 do not need to be tested again as long as they do not develop new symptoms. More information is available here.

RETURN TO WORK

If not evaluated by a healthcare provider

Symptoms present (whether or not they had close contact**)

10-day home isolation. Then return when no fever for 24 hours without fever reducing medicine. Quarantine close contacts. *

No symptoms but close contact**

14-day home quarantine. *

After 10-day isolation, if symptoms have improved and no fever for at least 24 hours without fever-reducing medicine, worker may return to work after Day 10.

Consider alternate diagnoses.

Once symptoms have improved and worker has no fever for at least 24 hours without fever-reducing medicine, allow return to work.

Has the worker had close contact** with someone with COVID-19 in past 14 days?

NO

Test* (and/or evaluate clinically) for COVID-19. Isolate at home.

Positive test for COVID-19

Quarantine close contacts. #

Negative test for COVID-19

If no symptoms, return after Day 14.

Negative test for COVID-19 or not tested

Test* for COVID-19 right away. Isolate/quarantine* at home. Asymptomatic close contacts: If initial test is negative, retest at 5 days or more after exposure.

NO

Has the worker had close contact** with someone with COVID-19 in past 14 days?

YES

Stay home or send home. Quarantine for 14 days after last exposure. *

continue normal activities

YES

Isolate from others. Stay home or send home.

Worker should contact a healthcare provider for testing and care

If symptoms develop, retest as soon as possible. Home isolate for 10 days after symptom onset (or date of positive test). Quarantine close contacts. #

Testing: PCR or antigen (Ag) testing is acceptable. If an Ag test is negative and clinical suspicion for COVID-19 is high, confirm with PCR, ideally within 2 days of the initial Ag test. If PCR testing is not available, clinical discretion may be used in whether to recommend the patient isolate. Those who have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past three months and recovered and most people who are fully vaccinated for COVID-19 do not need to be tested again as long as they do not develop new symptoms. More information is available here.

# 14-day quarantine recommended. If necessary, quarantine can end after Day 10 with no test or after Day 7 with a negative PCR or antigen test done on or after Day 5. Those who have had COVID-19 in the past three months or been fully vaccinated for COVID-19 and do not have symptoms are not required to quarantine. Monitor for symptoms for 14 days and always follow COVID-19 prevention recommendations.

^ During a suspected or confirmed workplace outbreak, more stringent return-to-work recommendations might apply.

7/16/2021