

Seaside Information Module

Positive COVID₁₉ Test Guidelines

Prepared by SCDC ver 6/29/20

Overview

This information provides an overview of guidelines provided by the Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association to help assist you if you or one of your employees test positive for COVID19.

From FRLA: “This document provides general guidance on strategies employers could consider in preparation for a potential COVID-19 positive employee. It should not be construed as legal, medical or human resource advice, but rather as a resource for employers needing to take quick action.”

Different Employee Scenarios & What To Do

1 | Sick At Home

- Should not come to work and should notify their manager or other designated point of contact
- See healthcare provider and possibly get tested

2 | Sick At Work

- Immediately separate employees with COVID-19 symptoms
- Send home and get tested
- Employees should not return to work until the criteria to discontinue home isolation are met

3 | Exposed, No Symptoms

- Assess symptoms prior to starting work; If the employee doesn't have a temperature or symptoms, they should still self-monitor throughout the day
- Possibly isolate for up to 14 days

Contact Tracing



Contact Tracing Employees Exposed to COVID-19

- Contact trace within your operation to determine potential exposure.
 - **You may ask an employee that tested positive for COVID-19 which coworkers he/she had been in "close contact" with in the prior 2 weeks (definition within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) or check shift schedules.**
- Notify Health Officials and Close Contacts
 - In accordance with state and local laws, business owners should notify local health officials and staff of any case of COVID-19 among employees.
 - **[LINK: Walton County Department of Health](#)**
- **NOTE:** During a pandemic, ADA-covered employers may ask such employees if they are experiencing symptoms of the pandemic virus. For COVID-19, these include symptoms such as fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat. Employers must maintain all information about employee illness as a confidential medical record in compliance with the ADA.
- Advise those who have had close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID 19 to stay home and self-monitor for symptoms, and follow CDC guidance if symptoms develop.

Clean & Disinfect



Clean & Disinfect After Positive Test

- Develop Your Plan
 - Determine What Needs To Be Cleaned
 - Determine How Areas Will Be Disinfected
 - Consider The Resources And Equipment Needed
- Implement
 - Clean Visibly Dirty Surfaces With Soap And Water
 - Use The Appropriate Cleaning Or Disinfectant Product
 - Always Follow The Directions On The Label
- Maintain and Revise
 - Continue Routine Cleaning And Disinfection
 - Maintain Safe Practices
 - Continue Practices That Reduce The Potential For Exposure
- Option: Hire An Outside Company To Clean If You Have To Close Your Business

Discontinuation Of Isolation For Employees Who Have COVID19

**(Non-Healthcare Settings, Medical
Providers Will Advise On Protocols
For Any Employees Who Have Been
Hospitalized)**



Discontinuation Of Isolation For Employees Who Have COVID19

SYMPTOM-BASED STRATEGY

- At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and,
- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

TEST-BASED STRATEGY

- Resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications
- Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath)
- Negative results of an FDA Emergency Use Authorized COVID-19 molecular assay for detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA from at least two consecutive respiratory specimens collected ≥ 24 hours apart (total of two negative specimens)

Discontinuation Of Isolation For Employees Who Have NOT had COVID-19 Symptoms but Tested Positive And Are Under Isolation

**(Non-Healthcare Settings, Medical
Providers Will Advise On
Protocols For Any Employees Who
Have Been Hospitalized)**



Discontinuation Of Isolation For Employees Who Have COVID19 With No Symptoms

TIME-BASED STRATEGY

- At least 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. If they develop symptoms, then the symptom-based or test-based strategy should be used. Note, because symptoms cannot be used to gauge where these individuals are in the course of their illness, it is possible that the duration of viral shedding could be longer or shorter than 10 days after their first positive test.

TEST-BASED STRATEGY

- Negative results of an FDA Emergency Use Authorized COVID-19 molecular assay for detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA from at least two consecutive respiratory specimens collected ≥ 24 hours apart (total of two negative test results)
- Note, because of the absence of symptoms, it is not possible to gauge where these individuals are in the course of their illness. There can be low levels of the virus that can lead to false negatives.

Other Considerations From The CDC Regarding These Strategies

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- The symptom-based, time-based, and test-based strategies may result in different timeframes for discontinuation of isolation post-recovery. For all scenarios outlined above, the decision to discontinue isolation should be made in the context of local circumstances.
- Note that recommendations for discontinuing isolation in persons known to be infected with COVID-19 could, in some circumstances, appear to conflict with recommendations on when to discontinue quarantine for persons known to have been exposed to COVID-19. CDC recommends 14 days of quarantine after exposure based on the time it takes to develop illness if infected. Thus, it is possible that a person known to be infected could leave isolation earlier than a person who is quarantined because of the possibility they are infected.
- This recommendation will prevent most, but cannot prevent all, instances of secondary spread. The risk of transmission after recovery is likely substantially less than that during illness; recovered persons will not be shedding large amounts of virus by this point, if they are shedding at all. Employers and local public health authorities can choose to apply more stringent criteria for certain persons where a higher threshold to prevent transmission is warranted.

Helpful Resource Links (Click To Navigate)

- ["CDC: Contact Tracing FAQ"](#)
- ["CDC: Contact Tracing Resources"](#)
- ["CDC: Discontinuation of Isolation for Persons with COVID -19 Not in Healthcare Settings"](#)
- ["CDC Video: How COVID Can Spread In A Community"](#)
- ["CDC: Contact Tracing Flowchart"](#)

Helpful Resource Links (Click To Navigate)

- ["CDC: Case Investigation Workflow"](#)
- ["CDC: Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting"](#)
- ["Pixel Lab: Take At Home COVID Test"](#)
- ["Walton County Department Of Health"](#)
- ["CDC: General Business Frequently Asked Questions"](#)