

### Management of asymptomatic healthcare personnel with exposure to a person with confirmed COVID-19

As both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the state of Massachusetts update guidance, BILH is incrementally and methodically advancing operations while meeting public health and safety standards. This policy applies to all BILH-affiliated HCP, regardless of location or level of patient contact, and will be updated as new information becomes available. All HCP are expected to comply with local or state quarantine recommendations, if applicable\*. Clearance is required through local Employee Health.

Exposure Scenario <sup>1, 2</sup>		Work status
Asymptomatic HCP with workplace exposure to a person with confirmed COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status.		Clear to work with mask while awaiting PCR test result. If negative, clear to continue working. <sup>3</sup>
Asymptomatic HCP with community-based exposure to a person with confirmed COVID-19, <i>not household member</i> , regardless of vaccination status.		Clear to work with mask while awaiting PCR test result. If negative, clear to continue working. <sup>3</sup>
Asymptomatic HCP with COVID-19 positive household member	a) ongoing exposure (e.g., caring for sick child, spouse), and/or unable to isolate (e.g. sharing a bedroom) <i>but fully vaccinated</i> <sup>4</sup>	Out of work pending PCR test result. If negative, clear to return to work; A second PCR test required five days later. Additional testing may be indicated for more prolonged exposures (e.g. multiple positive household members; household member who meets criteria for longer isolation)
	b. ongoing exposure (e.g., caring for sick child, spouse), and/or unable to isolate (e.g. sharing a bedroom) <i>but NOT fully vaccinated</i> <sup>4</sup>	Out of work pending PCR test result. Test once household member removed from home isolation. If PCR test is negative, clear to return to work.
	b) able to isolate from household member, regardless of vaccination status <sup>5</sup>	Out of work pending PCR test result. Test once HCP is no longer having daily, direct contact with COVID-positive household member. If negative, clear to return to work.

1. Infection Control definition of exposure: a) being in close contact (within 6 feet for at least 10 minutes) of a person with confirmed COVID-19 without recommended personal protective equipment (PPE) within the 48 hours before diagnosis (symptom onset or positive test, if asymptomatic) ; or b) having direct contact of any duration with infectious secretions of a COVID-19 case while not wearing recommended PPE, such as a direct cough in the face without a mask or eye protection, or performing an aerosol-generating procedure without [all essential PPE components](#).
2. HCPs with confirmed COVID diagnosis within the past 90 days, without new onset of symptoms, will not be tested. Confirmed COVID is defined as a positive PCR or other nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) for SARS-CoV-2.
3. Consider waiting 3-5 days after first possible exposure event before testing, in consultation with local Infection Control.
4. Fully vaccinated requirement is only met once HCP is 14 days from receiving complete series of COVID-19 vaccine (e.g., both doses of Moderna/Pfizer; one dose of Janssen/J&J).
5. If unable to completely isolate (such as sharing a bathroom or kitchen), must be able to follow the [BILH Home Care Isolation Instructions for Patients and Their Caregivers when COVID-19 is Suspected or Confirmed](#).

#### After returning to work, HCP should:

- Wear a surgical mask at all times while in the facility, unless eating or replaced by a respirator. When eating, please be sure to sit at least 6 feet from other staff and consider staggering breaks as much as possible to avoid exposure.
- Self-monitor for symptoms daily and continue to complete the required daily symptom reporting.
- If symptoms develop, HCP must cease work immediately and contact Employee Health to arrange for prompt testing for COVID-19.

\* HCP should consult with their local health department prior to returning to work after a community exposure to a person with confirmed or suspected COVID-19, including household exposures, as additional clearance and quarantine conditions may apply as it relates to community activities.