Screening and Exposure Decision Pathways for Symptomatic Persons and Contacts of Potentially Infected Persons at Educational Institutions

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
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Screening and Exposure Decision Pathways for
*Children* at an Educational Institution and Their Close Contacts at the Facility
Decision Pathways for Children Screened for Symptoms and Exposures Prior to Entry\(^1\) into an Educational Institution

1. Screening indicates no symptoms and exposures for child. 
   - Child is cleared to enter the facility.

2. Screening identifies child with 1 or more symptoms consistent with possible COVID-19.\(^1\)
   - Child is sent home. Parent/guardian instructed to consult Medical Provider for further evaluation and possible COVID-19 testing.
   - Institution determines if the child should be excused per illness management policy. If the child’s symptoms make it difficult to comply with the facility’s COVID-19 safety protocols, the child should be sent home.

   - Child stays home until fever free without fever reducing medication for 24 hours and improved symptoms.
   - Parent/guardian reports child’s status to institution.

4. Screening identifies child as exposed to a person with confirmed COVID-19.
   - Child is sent home. Parent/guardian instructed to have child tested for COVID-19. Child quarantines for 10 days from last exposure to infected person.

Medical provider confirms child does not have symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
- Child tested
- Child not tested

- Medical provider confirms child has symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
- Child has negative COVID-19 molecular test
- Child has positive COVID-19 diagnostic viral test

\(^1\)Symptoms consistent with possible COVID-19 infection in children include: fever ≥ 100.4°F; new cough (different from baseline); diarrhea or vomiting. If the child’s symptoms are not consistent with possible COVID-19 but there is still concern, evaluation of the child by a medical provider is recommended.
**Decision Pathways for Contacts to a Potentially Infected Child**

A potentially infected child is a child with $\geq 1$ symptoms consistent with possible COVID-19. Symptoms include fever $\geq 100.4^\circ F$; new cough (different from baseline); diarrhea or vomiting.

A close contact of a potentially infected child is a child or employee at the facility who was within 6 feet for $\geq 15$ minutes over a 24-hour period with a potentially infected child OR had direct contact with bodily fluids/secretions from a potentially infected child.

Contact stays quarantined at home until 10 days from last exposure to infected person.

Contact is now a case and should isolate at home until fever free without fever reducing medication for 24 hours, improved symptoms, and 10 days from beginning of symptoms (or 10 days from test date, if no symptoms).

Contact does not test or has negative COVID-19 diagnostic viral test.

Contact has positive COVID-19 diagnostic viral test.

Contact is instructed to quarantine and test.

Contacts to a potentially infected child are notified that they may have had an exposure at the facility.

Contacts may remain at the facility while waiting for confirmation of exposure.

Institution confirms the contact was exposed to COVID-19.

Institution confirms contact was not exposed OR no confirmation of exposure is provided.

No action required.

Exposure is confirmed for a close contact to a potentially infected employee if the Institution receives notification that the potentially infected employee had a positive COVID-19 diagnostic viral test OR received a diagnosis of COVID-19 from a medical provider.

Vaccinated persons who are a close contact to a confirmed case are not required to quarantine and test if they are: (1) fully vaccinated (i.e., $\geq 2$ weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose COVID-19 vaccine series or $\geq 2$ weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose COVID-19 vaccine) and (2) have remained asymptomatic since last contact with the infected person.
Screening and Exposure Decision Pathways for Employees at an Educational Institution and Their Close Contacts at the Facility
Decision Pathways for Employees Screened for Symptoms and Exposures Prior to Entry\(^1\) into an Educational Institution

1. **Screening indicates no symptoms and exposures for employee.**
   - Employee is cleared to enter the facility.

2. **Screening identifies employee with 1 or more symptoms consistent with possible COVID-19.**\(^1\)
   - Employee is sent home and instructed to consult Medical Provider for further evaluation and possible COVID-19 testing.
   - Medical provider confirms employee does not have symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
     - Employee stays home per Medical provider guidance. Employee reports health status to institution.
   - Medical provider not consulted or medical provider confirms employee has symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
     - Medical provider confirms employee does not have symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
       - Employee tested
         - Employee has negative COVID-19 molecular test
           - Employee stays home until fever free without fever reducing medication for 24 hours and improved symptoms. Employee reports health status to institution.
         - Employee has positive COVID-19 diagnostic viral test
           - Employee stays isolated at home until fever free for 24 hours, improved symptoms, and 10 days from symptom onset. Employee reports health status to institution.
     - Employee not tested
       - Employee is sent home and instructed to consult Medical Provider for further evaluation and possible COVID-19 testing.

3. **Screening identifies employee with symptoms not consistent with possible COVID-19.**
   - Institution determines if the employee should be excused per illness management policy. If the employee’s symptoms make it difficult for them to comply with the facility’s COVID-19 safety protocols, the employee should be sent home.

4. **Screening identifies employee as exposed to a person with confirmed COVID-19.**\(^2\)
   - Employee is sent home and instructed to test for COVID-19. Employee quarantines for 10 days from last exposure to infected person.

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\(^1\)Per CDC guidance for businesses and employers (5/2020), symptoms that may be associated with COVID-19 in adults include fever ≥ 100.4\(^\circ\)F or feeling feverish (chills, sweating); new cough (different from baseline); shortness of breath; muscle or body aches; diarrhea or vomiting; new loss of taste or smell. **If the symptoms are not listed but there is still concern, additional evaluation by a medical provider is recommended.**

\(^2\)Vaccinated persons who are a close contact to a confirmed case are not required to quarantine and test if they are: (1) fully vaccinated (i.e., ≥2 weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose COVID-19 vaccine series or ≥2 weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose COVID-19 vaccine) and (2) have remained asymptomatic since last contact with the infected person.
A potentially infected employee is an employee with ≥ 1 symptoms consistent with possible COVID-19. Symptoms include fever ≥ 100.4° or feeling feverish (chills, sweating); new cough (different from baseline); shortness of breath; muscle or body aches; diarrhea or vomiting; new loss of taste or smell. A close contact of a potentially infected employee is a child or employee at the facility who was within 6 feet for ≥ 15 minutes over a 24-hour period with a potentially infected employee OR had direct contact with bodily fluids/secretions from a potentially infected employee.

Contacts to a potentially infected employee are notified that that they may have had an exposure at the facility. Contacts may remain at the facility while waiting for confirmation of exposure.  

Institution confirms that contact was exposed to COVID-19. Contact is instructed to quarantine and test

Institution confirms contact was not exposed OR no confirmation of exposure is provided. No action required.

Contact has positive COVID-19 diagnostic viral test

Contact does not test or has negative COVID-19 diagnostic viral test

Contact is now a case and should isolate at home until fever free without fever reducing medication for 24 hours, improved symptoms, and 10 days from beginning of symptoms (or 10 days from test date, if no symptoms).

Contact stays quarantined at home, monitoring symptoms until 10 days from last exposure to infected person.

2 Exposure is confirmed for a close contact to a potentially infected employee if the Institution receives notification that the potentially infected employee had a positive COVID-19 diagnostic viral test OR received a diagnosis of COVID-19 from a medical provider.

3 Vaccinated persons who are a close contact to a confirmed case are not required to quarantine and test if they are: (1) fully vaccinated (i.e., ≥2 weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose COVID-19 vaccine series or ≥2 weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose COVID-19 vaccine) and (2) have remained asymptomatic since last contact with the infected person.
Decision Pathways for
*Children or Employees with Laboratory-Confirmed COVID-19*
at an Educational Institution and Their Close Contacts at the Facility
Guidance for Child or Employee with Laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 at an Educational Institution

1. Educational Institution is notified of a child or employee with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19.

2. Child or employee with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 is sent home.

3. Child or employee with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 is instructed to isolate at home, away from others.¹

4. Institution identifies exposed contacts to child or employee with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 while infectious² and notifies contacts of exposure.

¹ Persons with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 should isolate until fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication, improved symptoms, and 10 days from beginning of symptoms (or 10 days from test date, if no symptoms).

² The infectious period for an infected person is 48 hours before symptom onset (or test date for persons with no symptoms) until the infected person is no longer required to be isolated.
Decision Pathways for Contacts to a Child or Employee with Laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 at an Educational Institution.

A close contact to a child or employee with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 is a child or employee at the facility that was within 6 feet for ≥15 minutes over a 24-hour period with the infected person OR had unprotected direct contact with bodily fluids/secretions from the infected person.

Contacts are notified that they have been exposed to COVID-19 at the facility and instructed to quarantine and test for COVID-19.

1. **Contact tested**
   - **Contact has positive COVID-19 diagnostic viral test**
     - Contact is now a case and should isolate at home until fever free without fever reducing medication for 24 hours, improved symptoms, and 10 days from beginning of symptoms (or 10 days from test date, if no symptoms)
   - **Contact has negative COVID-19 diagnostic viral test**
     - Contact stays quarantined at home until 10 days from last exposure to infected person.

2. **Contact not tested**

Vaccinated persons who are a close contact to a confirmed case are not required to quarantine and test if they are: (1) fully vaccinated (i.e., ≥2 weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose COVID-19 vaccine series or ≥2 weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose COVID-19 vaccine) and (2) have remained asymptomatic since last contact with the infected person.