

## PROTOCOLS AROUND EXPOSURE AND TESTING POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

### **PERSONS WHO TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19**

*The following information applies to everyone, regardless of vaccination status and will be the steps used by Town staff until further notice.*

If you test positive for COVID-19, you need to begin isolation immediately and notify your immediate supervisor and the Safety Officer.

*Isolation is used to separate people with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 from those without COVID-19. The number of days you must isolate has changed from 14 to a minimum of 5. (Day 0 is the day you develop COVID-19 symptoms and day 1 is the first full day following that.)*

You should contact your medical provider for guidance on next steps regarding your health or to discuss if you may be a candidate for prescription-based treatment.

You are also required to stay in isolation for at least 5 days from your first day of a positive test result. Isolation can end after day 5 if symptoms are not present or are resolving **and** a diagnostic specimen collected on day 5 or later tests negative.

\* NOTE: If you believe you are still eligible to use emergency sick leave hours, you should note that a PCR test result will be required to be included with your ESL form.

If you plan on coming back to work after not having symptoms and after day 5, please have an Antigen test conducted (this is a rapid test) before returning to the office. If your test results are negative, you can come back to work right away. If the results are positive, then continue isolation for a total of 10 days.

If fever is present throughout the isolation period and on day 5 of your isolation you should continue isolation until 24 hours after the fever resolves and then conduct an Antigen test before returning to work. Do not return to work until your immediate supervisor and the Safety Officer have received a copy of your test results.

Upon returning to work, continue to wear a well-fitting mask (a facial covering that covers the nose and mouth completely) around others for a total of 10 days (assuming you returned to work after day five but before the 10<sup>th</sup> total day), regardless of vaccination status and even if you no longer have symptoms.

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### **PERSONS WHO ARE EXPOSED TO SOMEONE WITH COVID-19 (Quarantine)**

*The following are the steps used for unvaccinated Town staff. These steps will be in place until further notice.*

#### **Definitions:**

- *Exposure: Contact with someone infected with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, in a way that increases the likelihood of getting infected with the virus.*
- *Close Contact: Someone sharing the same indoor airspace, e.g., home, clinic*

*waiting room, airplane etc., for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (for example, three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes) during an infected person's (laboratory-confirmed or a clinical diagnosis) infectious period.*

If you are an unvaccinated individual and you are exposed to someone who tests positive for COVID-19, you need to stay home and quarantine for at least 5 days after your last contact with that individual. Make sure to inform your immediate supervisor and the Safety Officer regarding your exposure. Quarantine can end after day 5 if symptoms are not present and a diagnostic specimen using an Antigen test is collected on day 5 or later and the result of the test is negative.

If you are unable to test and symptoms are not present, you must quarantine for 10 days total. Make sure you inform your immediate supervisor and the Safety Officer of the reason why you are unable to get tested before extending your quarantine period to the full ten days.

You should continue to wear a well-fitting mask around others for 10 days, especially in indoor settings. If the test results conducted return a positive test result, you must follow the steps above from the section "PERSONS WHO TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19".

Please note that in a workplace setting that is not related to health care, asymptomatic employees in this category are not required to stay home from work if:

- A negative diagnostic test is obtained within 3-5 days after last exposure to a case
- Employee wears a well-fitting mask around others for 10 days
- Employee continues to have no symptoms.

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**PERSONS WHO ARE EXPOSED TO SOMEONE WITH COVID-19 (No Quarantine)**

*The following are the steps used for vaccinated and up-to-date Town staff. These steps will be in place until further notice.*

**Definitions:**

- *Exposure: Contact with someone infected with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, in a way that increases the likelihood of getting infected with the virus.*
- *Close Contact: Someone sharing the same indoor airspace, e.g., home, clinic waiting room, airplane etc., for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (for example, three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes) during an infected person's (laboratory-confirmed or a clinical diagnosis) infectious period.*

If you are a Town employee who is up-to-date (has received the currently available booster doses) or you are a fully vaccinated Town employee and you are exposed to someone who tests positive for COVID-19, make sure to inform your immediate supervisor and the Safety Officer regarding your exposure. You do not need to stay home if you do not have any symptoms, however, you must collect a diagnostic specimen using an Antigen test 3-5 days after exposure.

You must wear a mask around others for 10 days. If you are not up-to-date with your vaccinations, consider completing your initial vaccination series. If symptoms develop, stay home and test. If the test results conducted return a positive test result, you must follow the steps above from the section "PERSONS WHO TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19"