

COVID-19 Close Contact Advisory for Non-Healthcare Workers



Contact tracing done at your workplace revealed a possible exposure to a confirmed COVID-19 case. **You were identified as a close contact to the COVID-19 positive person and may have been exposed to the virus.** According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the virus is spread mainly between people who are in close contact with one another (less than 6 feet apart for 15 minutes or longer) through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.

Learning of a potential exposure can be upsetting, but contact with someone with COVID-19 does not necessarily mean that you will get COVID-19 or become seriously ill. Most people with COVID-19 have mild illness and can recover at home. Some people who have the virus may not have any symptoms at all. That is why your employer is working closely with the County of Santa Clara Public Health Department to take precautions to prevent further exposure.

Please see below instructions regarding quarantine, work exclusion, clinical care, and testing.

Testing and Quarantine/Isolation

As a close contact to someone who was confirmed to have COVID-19, you are directed to **self-quarantine at home** and **get tested** as instructed below. However, **if you have been fully vaccinated**, you *may not* need to quarantine if you meet certain conditions. See sccstayhome.org for more information.

If you have not been fully vaccinated, you must stay home, even if you test negative, because it can take up to 14 days to become infected with COVID-19.

All close contacts and anyone experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, regardless of vaccination status:

- Get tested immediately and test again **5 days** after your last exposure to the case.
- Complete the 10-day quarantine period, if not fully vaccinated and/or symptomatic.
- Monitor for symptoms for 14 days.

If you have or develop COVID-19 symptoms (regardless of whether you have been fully vaccinated):

- Get tested immediately and separate yourself from any household members as much as possible.
 - If your test result is positive, you must remain isolated at home until at least 10 days have passed since your symptoms began AND after at least 24 hours with no fever (without using fever-reducing medication) and any other symptoms have improved.
 - If your test is negative and you were tested **earlier than 5 days** from your last exposure to the case, you must **quarantine at home** for a full **10 days** and **get tested again 5 days** after your last exposure to the case.
 - If your test is negative, and it was done **on day 5 or later** from your last exposure to the case, **no additional testing** is needed, but you still must **quarantine at home** for a full **10 days**.

Quarantine Exemption for Previous Infection: If you have had COVID within the previous 90 days and are asymptomatic, you do not need to quarantine. See additional information online [here](#).

If you develop COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath, chills, night sweats, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, tiredness, muscle or body aches, headaches, confusion, or loss of sense of taste/smell), contact your doctor immediately. If you do not have a doctor, you may contact the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, Valley Connections Line at 1-888-334-1000 and ask to speak to an advice nurse.

Work Exclusion

You are excluded from coming to the worksite during the quarantine period but can work remotely if allowed by your employer. Once the above testing and quarantine period requirements are met, you may return to the worksite in combination with your employer's recommendations, which may be specific to your position.

For more information on COVID-19, please visit our website at www.sccgov.org/covid19. Thank you for doing your part to stop the spread of the virus and keep our community healthy.