## **COVID-19 Close Contact Notification and Interview Process**

Notification:

- Notify close contact of exposure to COVID-19
- Is close contact well enough to be at home at this time
  - \*Call 911/ go to ER if symptoms gets worst -notify dispatcher or ER of contact of COVID-19
- Notify close contact of isolation order for all close contacts of COVID-19

## **Teaching**:

## About COVID-19

- **Common Signs and Symptoms** (fever, cough, runny nose/congestion, sore throat, shortness of breath).
  - Sometimes no symptoms.
  - Less common symptoms include:
    - painful swallowing, stuffy nose, headache, chills, muscle or joint aches, feeling unwell in general, new fatigue or severe exhaustion, loss of sense of smell or taste or conjunctivitis (pink eye)
    - gastrointestinal symptoms including nausea, vomiting, diarrhea or unexplained loss of appetite
- Asymptomatic contacts should notify CHN if they become symptomatic
- **Possible complications** (severe pneumonia, acute respiratory distress syndrome, sepsis, septic shock, multi-organ failure or death)
  - disease progression (if it happens) most often happens after day 7
  - risks higher in those with other medical conditions or elderly
- Infectious to others through droplets:
  - coughing, sneezing, talking, laughing and singing
  - contact with contaminated surfaces and then touching mouth, nose or eyes
- Prevention:
  - Hand Hygiene
  - Respiratory Hygiene i.e. cover cough
  - Regular cleaning and disinfecting of high touch areas
    - Household cleaners and then solution of 1 part bleach to 9 parts water
  - Avoid sharing household items like toothbrushes, cigarettes, towels, dishes, etc.
  - If possible, have 3 separate areas within in the home to keep COVID19 positives/others with symptoms/those with no symptoms apart
  - Dispose of waste materials like tissues into plastic bags and dispose of plastic bags/garbage as per usual

- 2 metre distance from others in the home especially seniors and those with chronic conditions
- case should not be involved in meal preparation/meals delivered to the door of their room
- pets should not go between cases and other family members

Isolation order for close contacts of COVID-19

- o Isolation order begins immediately on notification of contact
- Isolation order for close **contacts** means:
  - You <u>must</u> stay home
  - No visitors into the home (supplies can be dropped off at the door without entry)
  - Outside in own yard permitted (no visitors)
  - If it is essential to travel outside the home for essential medical reasons call ahead to medical office/site to make arrangements and notify them of close contact's exposure to COVID-19
- Length of required isolation will depend on:
  - Results of testing for the close contact and other close contacts within the home
  - Whether there is ongoing/new exposure to cases (especially within the home)
  - Whether close contact develops COVID-19. Asymptomatic close contacts should report any new symptoms during the isolation period to community health

## **Testing and Follow Up:**

- Complete the information for the contact on the *COVID-19 Contact List*
- Arrange testing for the contact for COVID-19
  - All close contacts (symptomatic and asymptomatic) should be tested
- Self-monitoring for symptoms
  - Notify CHN is symptoms or new symptoms develop
  - Call 911/ go to ER if symptoms require-notify dispatcher or ER of contact of COVID-19
  - Contacts who tested negative on the first test should be retested if they develop symptoms
- Contact tracing before a positive lab result
  - Contact tracing would be initiated for symptomatic close contacts (as a probable case pending lab results) only if lab results for testing are not likely to be received within 48
  - If the close contact is asymptomatic or results of testing should be receive within 48 hours do not initiate contact tracing on the close contact

Completed by (name and title):

Date completed: