COVID-19 Return to Work Guide For Healthcare Workers

Decision Chart

For more information, see the [COVID-19 Return to Work Guide for Healthcare Workers](#)

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**In the past 14 days, have you:**
- Had close contact, without wearing appropriate personal protective equipment, with a person who tested positive for COVID-19? OR
- Had close contact, without wearing appropriate personal protective equipment, with a person with an acute respiratory illness, and in the 14 days before their illness onset, this person had either:
  - Travelled outside of Canada;
  - Had close contact with a lab-confirmed COVID-19 case; OR
- Had laboratory exposure to biological material (e.g., primary clinical specimens, virus culture isolates) known to contain COVID-19 virus? OR
- Travelled outside of Canada?

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**NOTES:**
1. If your potential exposure to the COVID-19 virus occurred while performing your AHS work duties, then this exposure must be reported to [WHS](1-855-450-3619). If you develop symptoms within 14 days of a work-related exposure, then this must also be reported to WHS (1-855-450-3619).
2. There is no need to contact WHS prior to returning to work unless instructed to do so by WHS. Return to work decisions should be made in consultation with this guide and discussion with one’s manager or medical staff leader, as appropriate.
3. “Close contact” is defined as:
   - Provided care for the individual, including healthcare workers, family members or other caregivers, or who had other similar close physical contact with the person without consistent and appropriate use of personal protective equipment. OR
   - Lived with or otherwise had close prolonged contact (within 2 metres) with the person while the person was infectious; OR
   - Had direct contact with infectious bodily fluids of the person (e.g., was coughed or sneezed on) while not wearing recommended personal protective equipment.

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June 9, 2020

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Alberta Health Services