

Nursing MEMO

Date: 1/4/2022
From: Caroline Eldred, RN and Kate Hood, RN and Jennifer Rush, VP of Residential and Clinical Services
Re: Updated Work Expectations and Quarantine Guidelines

As many of you are aware, there is a significant spike of COVID and at the same time an extended wait period to even be tested. We ask everyone to be mindful of being in groups, remain masked and continuing to practice hand hygiene. For the sake of the individuals, please continue to show up for your scheduled shifts.

As of today, if staff are reporting mild symptoms, please have them come to their program to pick up a COLOR test. When they arrive, please bring OUT a test kit and shipping package and instruct them to test and mail immediately. We expect that to be completed the same day they are calling in.

For all staff and have been exposed to a positive- Fully Vaccinated or Not

- Must wear full PPE (gloves, gowns, N95, face shield)
- Must test using a COLOR test kit on day 5 of their last day of exposure
- If anyone becomes symptomatic, sooner- must test using a COLOR test kit immediately and isolate at home until the test results are back.

Individuals that have been exposed to a positive- Fully Vaccinated or Not

- Must test using a COLOR test kit on day 5 of their last day of exposure
- If anyone becomes symptomatic, sooner- must test using a COLOR test kit immediately and isolate at home until the test results are back.
- Must remain home from any community outings / day programs.

Symptomatic Staff or Individuals – Fully Vaccinated or Not

- Must Test using a COLOR test kit provided by their program.
- Must wait until that test result comes back before returning to work.

Day / Community Based program who have been Exposed to a Positive- Fully Vaccinated or Not

Community day / community based individuals-

- Must test on day 5 of last day of exposure using a PCR COVID test.
- Must remain home until receiving a negative result.

For all Staff Work Expectations- Fully Vaccinated or Not

- If staff lives with a symptomatic person that is not COVID positive but is getting tested, **staff are expected to work but must wear full PPE (gloves, gowns, N95, face shield)**
- If staff has any community exposure to someone with symptoms but not yet positive (may be waiting for results), **staff are expected to work but must wear full PPE.**
- If staff have been **living with a CONFIRMED COVID** positive, staff may not work until the COVID positive person has been cleared by BOH.

For any COVID positive staff or individuals:

- Immediately notify nursing, they will be given further instructions

For any COVID Positive staff or individuals:

Process to return to work, day program and the community.

- If you test positive for COVID-19 (isolate)-everyone regardless of vaccination status
- Stay home for 5 days.
- If you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolving after 5 days, you may return back work, day program and the community (for individuals they must wear a mask for 5 additional days)
- If you have a fever, continue to stay home until your fever resolves 24 hours.
- All staff must continue to wear a mask at all times.

BOH or Nursing Supervisors must clear staff and individuals based of CDC and BOH guidelines before returning to work, day program, and community.

When a house is on high alert, our goal is to have staff continue to work at the high-risk house until the house has been cleared, however this will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis with directors, residential supervisor and nursing supervisor.

This update is subject to any changes in CDC and BOH guidance.