# COVID-19 Isolation & Quarantine Guidance for Businesses

Preventing outbreaks is key to continue to protect your employees and their families from COVID-19. A significant spike in lab confirmed cases have occurred throughout the month of June, resulting in increased exposure of the virus to others. We fully expect this to continue as this outbreak progresses.

Attached is the current COVID-19 Isolation and Quarantine guidelines. These guidelines should be used for **ALL** employees affected by the virus in order to control the spread of COVID-19 to additional employees within your facility.

Public Health continues to follow up with all lab confirmed cases. During this follow-up, each case is asked to identify individuals they have been in close contact with during the time they were contagious. We consider a close contact to be someone that has been within six (6) feet of distance or less for fifteen (15) minutes or more. Exposed individuals are then contacted by the Health Department and instructed to stay in quarantine for 14 days from their last exposure. **It's important to note, employees should not return to work until their 14 days of quarantine is completed, regardless if they test negative for COVID-19 after their exposure.**

The CDC has provided interim guidance for businesses considered critical infrastructure (see attachment).This guidance provides some flexibility for identified critical infrastructure sectors to allow close contacts who are NOT ill to return to work during their 14 day quarantine period with specific mitigation efforts in place. Utilizing this guidance should be cautiously considered when continuity of operations is in jeopardy. It's important to recognize, the most effective way to keep COVID-19 out of your facility and avoid additional staff exposure is to allow exposed employees to stay home until their full 14 days of quarantine is complete.

**Additional Measures Businesses Should Continue:**
1. Screen all employees by taking their temperature and assessing for COVID-19 symptoms. Immediately remove any employee exhibiting symptoms from the workplace. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html

2. Implement measures to enable social distancing as much as possible.

3. Prioritize hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette among employees.

If your business has questions on preventing, detecting and managing cases of COVID-19, please call CG Public Health or visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Business Guidance at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html.