

Resource for Providers calling Patients EXPOSED to case of lab confirmed COVID 19

Who is responsible for providing notification?

Provider in the division/department where the exposure occurred: either on call provider or designee.

Department/Division Chairs are ultimately accountable to ensure that this patient notification happens as soon as possible but not more than 24 hours after on call provider notified by IPAC.

*****The provider who makes the notification should put a note in the patient's chart*****

What to say?

I am calling to tell you that you were potentially exposed to COVID 19 at Mayo Clinic during your recent visit/stay.

Exposure occurred on XXXX date. Up to 80% of exposed individuals will not be affected. However, some do develop more serious illness, and you should watch for the following symptoms that may appear **2-14 days after exposure.**

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of Breath
- Sore Throat
- Diarrhea
- Respiratory Distress
- Chills or Myalgias

Are you experiencing any of those symptoms now?

If symptomatic and assessment for testing needs to occur:

1. Instruct patient to call the COVID-19 Nurse Line at xxx-xxx-xxxx. **Be sure to instruct them to tell nurse line of a known exposure to a positive case.**

IF SEVERE SYMPTOMS: Refer to the ED/ER:

1. If patient is well enough to transport themselves to the ER, someone should drive them by private vehicle (do not use taxi, ride-share or public transport). Ask them to call ahead to tell the ER that they have had exposure to a person with Lab confirmed COVID and are on the way, so the ER can prepare. **Ask them to mask immediately upon entry to the ED.**
2. If patient is acutely ill, ask them to call 911. Remind patient to inform the ambulance service when they arrive to pick up the patient that the patient has had exposure to a person with lab confirmed COVID-19.

MILD SYMPTOMS:

Stay home for 14 days after onset of symptoms. If at day 14, fever has resolved and symptoms have improved, self-isolation can likely be discontinued.

Call your medical provider if you get worse, and tell them about the exposure to a person with known COVID-19, follow their instructions for next steps.

If ASYMPTOMATIC instruct them to:

1. **For 14 days after the exposure:** avoid close contact with people at high risk – elderly, immunocompromised patients. Monitor yourself for symptoms: fever, cough, SOB, sore throat, diarrhea, respiratory distress, chills or myalgias.
2. **If symptoms develop:**
 - a. Leave work immediately to keep from exposing others – try not to use publictransport if possible.
 - b. Cover your cough.
 - c. Call your healthcare provider and tell them about the exposure to a person with known COVID-19, follow their instructions for next steps.
3. **If a Healthcare Worker:** notify your employee/occupational health service before returning to work.