

**SVMC EMPLOYEE & PROVIDER TESTING STRATEGY** (updated 2.14.22)

REASON FOR TEST	HOW TO GET TESTED	PRIORITY TAT	TEST SITE	RESULTS SENT TO	NOTES
<b>1. Symptomatic essential<sup>1</sup> worker with suspected signs or symptoms of COVID-19</b>	<b>Immediately notify supervisor or director and obtain PCR test</b>				
a. Symptomatic at <u>work</u> or <u>home</u>	<b>M-F; 8-5</b> Contact on-call EH nurse* <b>After hours/weekends</b> Contact on-call COVID provider*	Rapid (4 hours or less)	EH or ED	EH PCP	*Go to <a href="http://www.amion.com">http://www.amion.com</a> . If prompted for a password, type "svmc". Look for the on-call EH nurse or provider under "Other"— <b>"COVID &amp; Return to Work"</b>
<b>2. Symptomatic non-essential<sup>2</sup> worker with suspected signs or symptoms of COVID-19</b>	<b>Immediately notify supervisor or director and obtain PCR test</b>				
a. Symptomatic at <u>work</u>	<b>M-F; 8-5</b> Contact on-call EH nurse* <b>After hours/weekends</b> Contact on-call COVID provider*	Priority (24 hours or less)	EH, ED or Express Care	EH PCP	*Go to <a href="http://www.amion.com">http://www.amion.com</a> . If prompted for a password, type "svmc". Look for the on-call EH nurse or provider under "Other"— <b>"COVID &amp; Return to Work"</b>
b. Symptomatic at <u>home</u>	1. Notify EH (5317)	Priority (24 hours or less)	EH or SVC	HCW, EH & PCP on request	
<b>3. Asymptomatic worker with known or suspected exposure<sup>^</sup> to SARS-CoV-2 (regardless of source)</b>	<b>Depends upon vaccine status: refer to the "Return to Work For Asymptomatic Employee Exposed to COVID-19"</b>				<sup>^</sup> See below for definition of "exposure"
	1. Notify EH (5317)	Priority (24 hours or less)	EH or SVC	HCW, EH & PCP on request	<i>Recommend testing at time of exposure and again in 7 days; workers must quarantine until result of test is known <b>regardless of vaccination status.</b></i>
<b>4. Asymptomatic worker without known exposure<sup>^</sup> who has traveled or is on quarantine</b>	<b>Depends upon vaccine status: refer to the "Return to Work For Asymptomatic Employee Exposed to COVID-19"</b>				<sup>^</sup> See below for definition of "exposure"

<sup>1</sup> Essential = HCW whose absence **would affect** the ability to provide essential patient care/services; may result in cancelled appointments/procedures

<sup>2</sup> Non-Essential = HCW whose absence **would not affect** the ability to provide essential patient care/services

	1. Notify EH (5317)	Routine (72 hours or less)		HCW, EH & PCP on request	
<b>5. Weekly tests for staff exempted from COVID vaccine requirements</b>					
	Schedule weekly PCR tests by calling 447-5317.	Routine (72 hours or less)		HCW, EH & PCP on request	
<b>6. New Hires</b>					
<b>Must be vaccinated with at least one dose or exempted prior to hire</b>	EH will maintain vaccination and exemption/testing status of staff.		EH	EH	<b>Religious Exemptions:</b> Human Resources reviews and either approves or denies request; <b>Medical Exemptions:</b> EH reviews and either approve or denies request

**The definitions below apply to all employees and providers regardless of vaccination status.**

**^SVHC Definition of EXPOSED close contact OUTSIDE of the hospital or medical practice:**

You are not fully vaccinated and were in contact with an individual within 48 hours of them (1) testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 in the case of an asymptomatic person, or (2) developing symptoms in the case of a person diagnosed with COVID-19, under the following conditions:

- You were within 6 feet of the individual for greater than 15 minutes, or cumulatively for greater than 15 minutes, over a 24 hour period regardless of the use of masks
- You provided care at home to the individual
- You had direct physical contact with the person (hugged or kissed them)
- You shared eating or drinking utensils
- They sneezed, coughed, or somehow got respiratory droplets on you

**^SVHC Definition of EXPOSED close contact INSIDE of the hospital or medical practice:**

You are not fully vaccinated and were in contact with an individual within 48 hours of them (1) testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 in the case of an asymptomatic person, or (2) developing symptoms in the case of a person diagnosed with COVID-19, under the following conditions:

- You were within 6 feet of the individual for greater than 15 minutes, or cumulatively for greater than 15 minutes, over a 24 hour period during which time a procedure mask was not worn by either the individual or you
- You had direct physical contact with the person (hugged or kissed them)
- You shared eating or drinking utensils
- They sneezed, coughed, or somehow got respiratory droplets on you
- They had an aerosolized generating procedure and you were not wearing all of the following approved PPE: eye protection, respirator, gown, and gloves

### **Determining Risks of Exposure, When to Test and Return to Work Criteria**

**Workers** who have [close contact](#) with or exposure to a an individual with confirmed COVID-19 should be tested and quarantined as soon as possible to reduce the risk of further workplace transmission. Strategies with differing levels of risk of workplace transmission may be considered for exposed but asymptomatic critical infrastructure workers to return to work with appropriate workplace protections. (Also See Return to Work algorithm)

**Strategy 1:** The strategy is for exposed workers to follow existing recommendations regarding exclusion from work.

**Strategy 2:** The strategy is a test-based option for returning to work earlier than 14 days after an exposure. This includes baseline testing and serial testing (i.e. re-testing) every 3 days until there are no more new cases detected in the HCW's cohort. Individual workers who remain asymptomatic and have negative tests at baseline and Day 3 can return to work and should continue to be tested every 3 days after returning to work until there are no more new cases in the worker cohort. With this strategy, some workers who are infected and return to work may begin to shed virus after Day 3. Infection in these workers could be missed without serial testing resulting in potential workplace transmission. Workers who test positive or become symptomatic during quarantine or after returning from work should be excluded from the workplace, as discussed above.

**Strategy 3:** During critical staffing shortages, another strategy to facilitate early return to work is to allow asymptomatic workers to return to work after a baseline test is obtained. Under this strategy, it is recommended that return to work would follow a negative test result, but could occur while results were pending, provided other [protections](#) are in place. In this case, this worker cohort should continue to be tested every 3 days after returning to work until there are no more new cases. Workers who test positive or become symptomatic should be excluded from the workplace, as discussed above.