



The World Health Organization's Management of Contacts

Persons (including caregivers and HCWs) who have been exposed to individuals with suspected COVID-19 disease are considered contacts and should be advised to monitor their health for 14 days from the last possible day of contact. A contact is a person who has had any of the following exposures:

A healthcare-associated exposure, including providing direct care for patients with COVID-19 disease, working with HCWs infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 disease, visiting patients or staying in the same environment as a patient with COVID-19 disease.

An exposure through working together in close proximity to or sharing the same classroom with a patient with COVID-19 disease.

An exposure through traveling with a patient who has COVID-19 disease in any kind of vehicle.

An exposure through living in the same household as a patient with COVID-19 disease within 14 days after the onset of symptoms in the patient.

If a contact develops symptoms, the following steps should be taken.

Notify the receiving medical facility that a symptomatic contact will be arriving.

While traveling to seek care, the person who is ill should wear a medical mask.

The contact should avoid taking public transportation to the facility if possible; an ambulance can be called, or the ill contact can be transported in a private vehicle with all of the windows open, if possible.

The symptomatic contact should be advised to always perform respiratory hygiene and hand hygiene and to stand or sit as far away from others as possible (at least 1 m) when in transit and when in the healthcare facility.

Any surfaces that become soiled with respiratory secretions or other body fluids during transport should be cleaned with soap or detergent and then disinfected with a regular household product containing a 0.5% diluted bleach solution.



Reference:

Home care for patients with suspected novel coronavirus (COVID-19) infection presenting with mild symptoms, and management of their contacts Interim guidance 04 February 2020.

<file:///C:/AA%20WiRED%20June%202024,%202018/CHI%20Program/CHI%20Modules%202018/990%20Coronavirus/WHO-nCov-IPC-HomeCare-2020.2-eng.pdf>