

COVID-19 Working Quarantine Process of Procedure

Maintaining healthcare personnel (HCP) staffing for identified critical functions of Shodair Children's Hospital operations is necessary to protect and maintain the safety and health of our community. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to progress locally, staffing shortages will likely occur due to exposures, illness, or need to care for family members at home. Shodair Children's Hospital must be prepared for potential staffing shortages and have plans and processes in place to mitigate potential impacts.

Shodair Children's Hospital has developed plans and strategies to address current and anticipated staffing shortages resulting from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. These strategies are consistent with the CDC's "*Strategies to Mitigate Healthcare Personnel Staffing Shortages*".

The following guidance comes from the Centers for Disease Control and is for healthcare facilities that are expecting or experiencing staffing shortages due to COVID-19.

Allowing asymptomatic HCP who

- 1) had a [higher-risk exposure](#) to SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) and
- 2) are not known to be infected with SARS-CoV-2 and
- 3) have not received all COVID-19 vaccine doses, including booster dose, as recommended by [CDC](#), to continue to work onsite throughout their 14-day post-exposure period:

If employee is permitted to work, they will be PCR tested daily for at least 5 days.

A *Working Quarantine Policy Agreement* will be issued to the affected HCP using the following implementation process:

Work Quarantine Implementation Process:

1. A staff member is identified as being a close contact to a confirmed case of COVID-19 or is identified as a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19.
2. The affected staff notifies the appropriate contact within Shodair Children's Hospital of their isolation or quarantine status. This may occur after verbal notification by the Lewis & Clark County Public Health (LCPH) Nurses or Contact Tracing Team OR after receiving the standard Isolation or Quarantine Order from the LCPH Isolation and Quarantine Management Team.
3. Shodair Children's Hospital will make the determination of whether the affected staff meets the criteria of an essential HCP and document this determination. This written determination will be maintained by Shodair Children's Hospital.
4. Shodair Children's Hospital will then complete and sign a *Working Quarantine Policy Agreement*.

Incident Command Team, January 2022

5. The agreement entails their commitment to adhere to strict guidelines before and during their shift.
6. Guidelines include:
 - Self-screening prior to arrival at facility
 - Monitoring symptoms and temperature every four hours during a shift
 - Documenting this information on the Shodair COVID-19 high/low risk symptom screening form
 - Always wearing a medical grade mask, with exception for eating and or drinking
 - Practicing social distancing, maintaining at least 6 feet between self and others.