Risk Assessment of Healthcare Workers with Potential Workplace Exposure to Covid-19 Case V8.1

Casual Contacts

All Healthcare Workers (excluding Laboratory Workers)

- Cumulative Protected exposure during one work shift for more than 15 minutes face-to-face (less than 1 meters distance) to a case
  - OR
  - Any Protected Exposure to the bodily fluids (mainly respiratory secretions e.g. coughing but also includes blood, stools, vomit, and urine) of the case
  - OR
  - Any Protected Exposure while present in the same room when an aerosol generating procedure (AGP)* is undertaken on the case
  - OR
  - A HCW who was not wearing gloves but was wearing other appropriate PPE*, performed hand hygiene immediately after hand skin contact with secretions / excretions of a case
- Cumulative Unprotected Exposure (i.e. any breach or omission of appropriate PPE*) for less than 15 minutes face-to-face (less than 1 meters distance) to a case
- Any HCW who meets the above criteria, will be considered a Casual Contact for the duration of the care provided and for 14 days after the last contact.

Important
Please consider clinical, ambulance and non-clinical staff when conducting your risk assessment.

Novel Coronavirus Case
Patient with a laboratory confirmed infectious Novel Corona Virus or where symptoms fit criteria for testing (confirmed by treating consultant or microbiology consultant)

Exposure Types
Protected Exposure = Recommended infection control precautions followed, including the use of appropriate Personal Protective Equipment* (PPE) during the infectious period
Unprotected Exposure = any breach or omission of the appropriate PPE*

Close Contact require Active Monitoring

- Must not remain at work
- Linked to Occupational Health
- Close Contact specific advice provided
- Contacted on a daily basis
- Self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days after the exposure incident
- Contact Occupational Health/Emergency Department if they develop relevant symptoms

Close Contacts

All Healthcare Workers excluding Laboratory Workers

- Cumulative Unprotected Exposure during one work shift for more than 15 minutes face-to-face (< 1 meters distance) to a case
  - OR
  - Any Unprotected Exposure of their eyes or mouth or mucus membranes, to the bodily fluids (mainly respiratory secretions e.g. coughing, but also includes blood, stools, vomit, and urine) of the case
  - OR
  - Any Unprotected Exposure while present in the same room when an aerosol generating procedure* (AGP) is undertaken on the case.

- Laboratory Workers Testing for COVID-19
  Lab HCWs who have not fully adhered to good laboratory practice in one work shift for less than 15 minutes, while testing samples, are classified as Casual Contacts.

  Laboratory HCWs who have not fully adhered to good laboratory practice for 15 minutes or more in one work shift, while testing samples, are classified as Close Contacts.

- Relevant Symptoms
  - Fever
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath
  - Difficulty breathing

Casual Contact require Passive Monitoring

- Asymptomatic Casual Contacts Can remain at Work
- Symptomatic Casual Contacts Must not remain at work
- Casual Contact specific advice provided
- Self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days after the last potential exposure
- Contact Occupational Health/Emergency Department if they develop relevant symptoms

*See AGP and PPE Guidance documents https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/guidance/infectionpreventionandcontrolguidance/