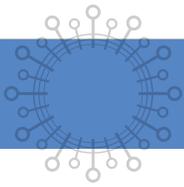


Appendix 7.

What to do if a worker tests positive for Covid-19 but is not ill

Food facilities need to follow protocols set by local and state health departments regarding persons who test positive for Covid-19 but are not ill. In general, they should do the following:

- 1 Managing workers** who test positive for Covid-19 but are asymptomatic (do not have any symptoms of Covid-19)
 - Workers who test positive for Covid-19 but are asymptomatic should be advised to remain at home, self-isolate, and seek medical advice
- 2 Contacting the health department**
 - If a worker tests positive for Covid-19 but is asymptomatic, the workplace supervisor should contact the state or local health department for guidance in accordance with health department policies and requirements
 - The health department will need to know who has had close contact with the Covid-19 positive person while they were at the workplace; fellow workers will need to be notified of their possible workplace exposure to Covid-19, while confidentiality about individual workers' identities is maintained
- 3 Cleaning and disinfecting the workplace**
 - Food facilities need to follow cleaning protocols set by local and state health departments; in general, they should do the following:
 - Increase air circulation in the area, following applicable guidelines for food-service establishments
 - Use recommended PPE for cleaning and disinfecting
 - Clean and disinfect all areas used by the infected person (for example, work stations, offices, bathrooms and other common areas)
 - Clean and disinfect shared electronic equipment (for example, touch screens, keyboards and mice, remote controls) and other shared equipment
 - If more than 7 days have passed since the sick person visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary
 - Continue routine cleaning and disinfection
 - It is not necessary to recall or destroy food products that the worker may have handled
 - Guidance for disinfecting the workplace after having a worker who tests positive or is ill with Covid-19 is available on the CDC website



Appendix 7.

What to do if a worker tests positive for Covid-19 but is not ill

4 Return to work

- Persons who have tested positive for Covid-19 but have not had any symptoms now have two options for discontinuing isolation and returning to work: (1) a time-based strategy and (2) a test-based strategy
 - Time-based strategy
 - Persons with laboratory-confirmed Covid-19 who have not had any symptoms and were directed to care for themselves at home may discontinue isolation under the following conditions:
 - At least 10 days have passed since the date of their first positive Covid-19 diagnostic test assuming they have not subsequently developed symptoms since their positive test
 - If they develop symptoms, then the symptom-based or test-based strategy should be used
- **Note:** *Because symptoms cannot be used to gauge where these individuals are in the course of their illness, it is possible that the duration of viral shedding could be longer or shorter than 10 days after their first positive test*
- Test-based strategy
 - Persons with laboratory-confirmed Covid-19 who have not had any symptoms and were directed to care for themselves at home may discontinue isolation under the following conditions:
 - Negative results of an FDA Emergency Use Authorized Covid-19 molecular assay for detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA from at least two consecutive respiratory specimens collected ≥ 24 hours apart (total of two negative specimens)
 - **Note:** *Because of the absence of symptoms, it is not possible to gauge where these individuals are in the course of their illness; there have been reports of prolonged detection of RNA without direct correlation to viral culture.*
 - The decision for workers to discontinue isolation and return to work should be made in consultation with their healthcare provider and state or local health department

¹ Adapted from: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html>