
Recommended Precautions for Symptomatic Patients (COVID-19 Exposure)

The goal of screening is to identify patients and/or visitors as quickly as possible, but in the case that an individual is not identified early please take the following precautions.

- As soon as an individual is identified as at risk **immediately** give the patient and their visitor a mask and ask them to perform hand hygiene.
- Isolate the patient in an examination room with the door closed. If an examination room is not readily available isolate the individual away from other patients. If possible, the patient may want to wait in their car or outside the healthcare facility until an exam room is available.ⁱ
- Until more is known about COVID-19, both the CDC and OSHA are recommending a combination of standard, contact, and airborne precautions.
- If a patient is suspected of having COVID-19 immediately contact your local or state health department. Additionally, notify your area supervisor(s) of a possible exposure.
- After discharge of the patient, terminal cleaning should be performed. Personnel entering the room to clean should wear gown, gloves and mask while performing terminal cleaning.
- According to the CDC, current evidence suggests that coronavirus may remain viable from hours to days on various surfacesⁱⁱ.
- Cleaning of visibly dirty surfaces followed by disinfection is a recommendation prevention of COVID-19.
- The CDC recommends using EPA-registered disinfectants that have qualified under EPA's emerging viral pathogen program for use against SARS or MERSⁱⁱⁱ. A list of acceptable products can be found here https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2020-03/documents/sars-cov-2-list_03-03-2020.pdf.

ⁱ <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/faq.html>

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