

IOWA SCHOOL NURSE WEBINAR

09/03/2020

CASE INVESTIGATIONS AND CONTACT TRACING

Public health will conduct a case investigation and identify close contacts.

- Public health investigates cases by calling the person who tests positive for COVID-19 infection to direct them to isolate and asking questions about their illness, risk factors, and who they have been in close contact with while infectious.
- Public health investigators then call the identified close contacts to direct them to self-quarantine for 14 days after their last exposure to the COVID-19 infected person.
- Public health will notify the K-12 COVID-19 Contact to provide names of students, faculty or staff testing positive for COVID-19 and the names of those who have been identified as close contacts of confirmed cases.
 - Public health will ask for assistance from the K-12 COVID-19 Contact to identify contacts in schools.

WHEN CAN COVID-19 INFECTED PEOPLE PASS THE VIRUS TO OTHERS?

If the infected person has symptoms:

- 2 days before their first symptom until 10 days after (should be fever free and other symptoms should have improved for at least 24 hours)

If the infected person does not have symptoms:

- 2 days before they were tested until 10 days after

NATIONAL CONTACT DEFINITION FROM CDC

Within 6 feet for 15 minutes or longer

- Mask wearing decreases the risk of transmission, but does not alter the close contact definition

Recommendations for contacts

- Contacts without symptoms should self-quarantine for **14 days from their last exposure**
- Contacts with symptoms should self-isolate for **10 days after their symptoms began (and fever has resolved and other symptoms have improved for at least 24 hours)**

PLEASE CONTINUE TO REPORT TO PUBLIC HEALTH WHEN 10% OF STUDENTS ARE ABSENT DUE TO ILLNESS

DO COUNT

- Students expected to attend in-person classes who are absent today due to reported illness of any kind
- Students expected to attend in-person classes who are absent today because they are in isolation due to a positive COVID-19 result and/or COVID-19 symptoms

DO NOT COUNT

- Students absent for reasons not related to illness (e.g., vacation)
- Students who are quarantined at home (not currently ill or positive for COVID-19) due to an exposure to COVID-19
- Students attending schools online as expected for the day

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR WEEKLY ILLNESS REPORTING

SAME PROGRAM AS PREVIOUS YEARS

Report the following two numbers weekly:

- Total number of students absent due to illness of any kind and who were expected to attend school for in-person learning
- Total number of students expected for in-person learning

Helps public health understand when illness is starting to increase – especially flu and norovirus

If interested email andy.weigel@idph.iowa.gov

EVALUATING SICK STUDENTS AND STAFF: REOPENING IOWA'S SCHOOLS SAFELY AND RESPONSIBLY

EVALUATING SICK STUDENTS AND STAFF

Reopening Iowa's Schools Safely and Responsibly

HIGH RISK SYMPTOMS

New cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell

LOW RISK SYMPTOMS

Fever, headache, muscle and body aches, fatigue, sore throat, runny nose, congestion, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea

Students and staff members should remain home when sick. Students or staff members with any high-risk symptom or two or more low risk symptoms should stay home and are advised to seek an evaluation by a health care provider.

EVALUATION BY HEALTH CARE PROVIDER

NEGATIVE COVID-19 TEST

Return to school after 24 hours with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medicine) and symptoms improving

ALTERNATIVE DIAGNOSIS

POSITIVE COVID-19 TEST

Return to school after 24 hours with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medicine) and symptoms improving and 10 days since symptoms started

IDENTIFYING CLOSE CONTACTS FOR COVID-19 CASES

Close Contact: Individuals who've been within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes with a positive COVID-19 case during the infectious period. Contact may occur in a classroom, lunchroom, free period, during transportation to or from school, at practices or games, and during extracurricular activities.

SCHOOL WILL:

- Notify local public health department
- Identify close contacts and quarantine exposed students and staff
- Notify appropriate school administration, families and staff (without identifying the COVID-19 case)
- Provide Public Health with list of close contacts

PUBLIC HEALTH WILL:

- Recommend quarantine for all household contacts of COVID-19 case
- Work with school to determine which students and staff should be quarantined

STUDENTS

- If no symptoms develop, students can return to school 14 days from their last contact with the COVID-19 case
- If symptoms develop, students should be evaluated by a health care provider
- If a student tests positive for COVID-19, they should isolate for 10 days
- If a student tests negative for COVID-19, they must still complete their 14-day quarantine before returning to school

STAFF

- Staff may be considered critical personnel and can be allowed to return to work if there are staffing shortages as long as they remain asymptomatic
- Staff should take their temperature and screen for symptoms at the start and end of each day, and wear a mask at work
- If symptoms develop, they must isolate immediately

INDIVIDUALS PREVIOUSLY POSITIVE

- Those who have been previously diagnosed positive for COVID-19 within the past 12 weeks, and were exposed to a COVID-19 case, do not need to quarantine



RETURN-TO-LEARN: REOPENING IOWA'S SCHOOLS SAFELY AND RESPONSIBLY

RETURN TO LEARN

Reopening Iowa's Schools Safely and Responsibly

COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION: NONE TO MINIMAL

0-5% positivity in county on average over the past 14 days

* Healthcare resources remain stable

SUGGESTED STRATEGIES

- Stay home if you are sick or exposed to someone confirmed to have COVID-19
- Practice frequent hand-washing
- Stay 6 feet from others as much as possible
- Use face coverings when able to do so safely and correctly
- Maintain frequent cleaning schedule using EPA-approved cleaning products
- Monitor absenteeism among teachers, staff, and students

RETURN-TO-LEARN MODEL(S)

On-Site Learning following DOE, IDPH and CDC guidance.

- Hybrid Learning as necessary based on:
- Parent or guardian preference
 - Student quarantine

COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION: MINIMAL TO MODERATE

6-14% positivity in a county on average over the past 14 days

* Healthcare resources remain stable

SUGGESTED STRATEGIES

- Continue above strategies
- Reduce group events/gatherings
- Limit inter-school interactions
- Ensure student and staff groupings/cohorts are as static as possible and that interactions among groups of students and staff are limited

RETURN-TO-LEARN MODEL(S)

On-Site Learning following DOE, IDPH and CDC guidance.

- Hybrid Learning as necessary based on:
- Parent or guardian preference
 - Student quarantine

COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION: SUBSTANTIAL CONTROLLED

15-20% positivity in a county on average over the past 14 days AND 10% absenteeism among students expected for in-person learning

*Healthcare resources remain stable

SUGGESTED STRATEGIES

- Continue above strategies
- Consider regular health checks for any on-site students/staff if feasible
- Cancel school events/gatherings
- Close communal spaces (e.g., cafeterias, media centers)

RETURN-TO-LEARN MODEL(S)

- Hybrid Learning as necessary based on:
- Parent or guardian preference
 - Student quarantine

- Temporary Continuous/Remote Learning for an entire school building or district for up to 14 days may be requested:
- Please contact the Department of Education by submitting your information via the CASA system.
 - Only the Departments of Education and Public Health can make the determination and provide temporary authorization to move to 100% online or remote learning.

COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION: SUBSTANTIAL UNCONTROLLED

>20% positivity in a county on average over the past 14 days with healthcare resource capacity concerns

SUGGESTED STRATEGIES

State and local education and public health officials should work closely together to make decisions on school operations.

RETURN-TO-LEARN MODEL(S)

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WHAT ABOUT FALL ACTIVITIES?

Not prohibited

Consider hosting activities that allow for social distancing

- Trivia night
- Game night
- Entertainment (comedian, magician, concert)

WHAT IF...

Someone tests positive and then immediately gets another test which is negative?

- Should not ignore the positive test, public health will investigate and contact trace

What if there are plastic dividers between students?

- May decrease the risk of transmission, but does not alter the close contact definition