

# Essential Industries with an employee who tests positive for COVID-19

**Essential Industries with an employee who tests positive for COVID-19 (<https://www.cstcsafety.com/blog/essential-industries-with-an-employee-who-tests-positive-for-covid-19>)**

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Posted by Terra Laverty

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## **Essential Industries with an employee who tests positive for COVID-19**

- 1.** Isolate sick worker from other employees.
- 2.** Inform other employees while protecting privacy under HIPAA laws.
- 3.** Perform a contact tracing of the employee at your workplace for the previous 14 days including contractors and suppliers who may have been in close contact\* with the infected worker.
- 4.** Sanitize surfaces which the worker may have touched including tools and transportation.
- 5.** Monitor employees who were potentially exposed. Ask daily about symptoms and potential exposures. Train employees to inform you if any symptoms appear while working and isolate any employee who has symptoms. Consider monitoring temperatures of employees.
- 6.** If contact tracing indicates the employee was exposed while working then recording (worker comp) and reporting to Cal/OSHA if the illness leads to a fatality, in-patient hospitalization or disfigurement.
- 7.** Review your companies code of safe practice for COVID-19 and review your infectious disease management plan and update as needed.

\*\* Data is limited to define of close contact. Factors to consider when defining close contact include proximity (within 6 feet), the duration of exposure (e.g., longer exposure time likely increases exposure risk), whether the individual has symptoms (e.g., coughing likely increases exposure risk) and whether the individual was wearing a facemask (which can efficiently block respiratory secretions from contaminating others and the environment).

Sources: Cal/OSHA, CDC, OSHA, CA DHS and HHS

Tags: Ben IV Lavery (<https://www.cstcsafety.com/blog/category/ben-iv-lavery>), COVID-19 (<https://www.cstcsafety.com/blog/category/covid-19>), OSHA (<https://www.cstcsafety.com/blog/category/osha>), Wellness (<https://www.cstcsafety.com/blog/category/wellness>)

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