



Procedures for Presumed Case On-Site

What should I do when someone presumed to have COVID-19 (presumptive case) has been on-site?

Consider someone presumptive if they meet any of the following criteria:

1. Has been tested for COVID-19 within 14 days of being on-site.
2. Has tested positive for COVID-19 within 14 days of being on-site.
3. Has developed symptoms of COVID-19 within 14 days of being on-site (cough, fever, sneezing, sore throat, fatigue).

Presumptive Case FAQs

1. When can the presumptive case return to the work site?

The presumptive case should not be permitted back on-site until:

- they have no symptoms of COVID-19 AND
- 14 days have passed since they developed symptoms AND
- they have had no fever, without fever-reducing medication, for 72 hours (3 full days).

In the most serious cases of COVID-19, the person has to be admitted to the hospital or needs the care of a medical professional. If the presumptive case needed that kind of care, they should not return to work until medical professionals say it is safe for them and everyone else in their workplace.

2. How should we clean the site?

Clean and disinfect all surfaces in the area where the presumptive case was. Follow the SAFETYDRIVEN procedures for Enhanced Cleaning and Disinfecting.

Think about calling in a professional cleaning company that focuses on removing biohazards if the presumptive case tested positive for COVID-19.

3. Should other workers be isolated?

- a. Call HealthLink BC at 811 for guidance. If the presumptive case was tested for COVID-19, the steps below will apply, but you may need to request testing or other actions.
- b. Identify any individuals who have been in CLOSE CONTACT with the presumptive case. These



individuals should self-isolate for 14 days.

CLOSE CONTACT¹ means:

- Provided care for the presumptive case but did not use PPE consistently or properly.
 - Lives with the presumptive case.
 - Had direct contact with infectious body fluids of the presumptive case (e.g., was coughed or sneezed on).
 - Was face-to-face (within 2 metres/6 feet) with the presumptive case without proper PPE while that person had symptoms of COVID-19.
 - Has been identified by the local Medical Health Officer as a person at high risk of spreading COVID-19.
- c. Identify any individuals who have been near but not within 2 metres (NON-CLOSE CONTACT) of the presumptive case. Monitor these individuals for symptoms, including taking their temperature daily, for 14 days. These individuals should maintain physical distance (2 metres/6 feet) from other workers and follow handwashing and cough/sneeze protocol. They should self-isolate if they develop any symptoms.

NON-CLOSE CONTACT¹ means:

- Provided care for the presumptive case **with** consistent and appropriate use of PPE.
 - Was with the presumptive case but not within 2 metres/6 feet of that person while they showed symptoms of COVID-19.
- d. If possible, the presumptive case's work crew should work separately from other work crews for 14 days after the presumptive case developed symptoms (i.e., in a different room or on a different shift).
- e. If any workers who have had close or non-close contact with the presumptive case develop symptoms, they should also be considered as presumptive cases. Repeat these steps.

¹ http://www.bccdc.ca/resource-gallery/Documents/Guidelines%20and%20Forms/Guidelines%20and%20Manuals/Epid/CD%20Manual/Chapter%201%20-%20CDC/2019-nCoV-Interim_Guidelines.pdf

COVID-19

