COUNTY OF ERIE
MARK C. POLONCARZ
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

GALE R. BURSTEIN, MD, MPH
COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

March 23, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

Essential Employers should allow employees exposed to or recovering from Covid-19, to work under the following conditions:

Employees who have been close contacts to confirmed or suspected cases who are asymptomatic should work. Employees with confirmed or suspected Covid-19 who have maintained isolation for at least 7 days after illness onset and have been at least 72 hours fever-free (with a temperature less than 100.4) with other symptoms improving may return to work.

Employees who are asymptomatic contacts of confirmed or suspected cases should self-monitor twice a day for a fever (temperature equal to or greater than to 100.4) and cough or shortness of breath.

Asymptomatic contact who return to work should continue to voluntarily quarantine themselves when not at work, i.e., remain at home separated from others, for 14 days following the exposure.

If employees who are asymptomatic contacts working under these conditions develop symptoms consistent with Covid-19 (temperature equal to or greater than 100.4 and cough or shortness of breath) they should immediately stop work and isolate at home. All employees with symptoms consistent with Covid-19 should be dealt with as if they have this infection regardless of the availability of test results.

Sincerely,

Gale R. Burstein, MD, MPH, FAAP
Commissioner of Health