

## COVID-19 Close Contact Exposure and Testing

Define close contact - An individual is considered a close contact if any of the following situations happened while he/she was in the presence of a person infected with COVID-19 (even if the infected individual had no symptoms):

- Within 6ft of each other for 10 consecutive minutes
- Contact with the infected person's respiratory secretions (example: coughed/sneezed on, kissed, shared drink, shared food, shared towel or other personal items).
- Live with the infected individual or stayed overnight for at least one night in a house with the person.

### Higher-risk situations:

The chance of spreading the virus is greater the longer the infected individual is close to someone, as well as if he/she is doing any of the following:

- coughing
- sneezing
- singing
- shouting
- any activity that produces more respiratory droplets

In high risk situations an individual is considered a close contact when he/she has been within 6ft of an infectious person for 10 minutes or more in a 24-hour period.

The final decision on what constitutes a close contact is made at the discretion of Public Health.

*\*\*Please note - it takes most people 5-7 days after exposure to develop the disease. Asymptomatic individuals who have known exposure will not be tested until day 7 or later.*