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- Contacts are taught how to watch for symptoms for a certain number of days (the disease’s incubation period).

If you are diagnosed with certain diseases, you will be asked by a public health communicable disease nurse about everyone with whom you have had contact. The nurse will talk to each person and ask them about their health. This is called contact tracing, and is a core public health function.

Public Health Contact Tracing Can Stop & Slow Infectious Disease Outbreaks

Your role, providing all contacts, is key to stopping the spread of disease.

1. **Patient Isolated & Provided Care**
   - Contact shows symptoms & isolated, tested & provided care.
   - Patient asked about contacts.
   - Contacts watched for symptoms for a certain number of days.
   - Cycle repeats until there are no new patients.

2. **Patient asked about their contacts.**
   - Contact shows symptoms & isolated, tested & provided care.
   - Patient asked about contacts.
   - If no contacts, no further spread of the disease.

3. **Missed contact may spread disease to new contacts.**
   - Contacts will be watched for symptoms for a certain number of days.
   - Public health system works to eliminate missed contacts.
   - Contact shows no symptoms after a certain number of days.
   - Contact not at risk of developing the disease.