

**SUBJECT:** COVID-19 Occupational Contact Tracing  
**TO:** Hanford Site Employees  
**FROM:** HPMC Occupational Medical Services

HPMC Occupational Medical Services (HPMC OMS) has dedicated a team of experienced doctors, nurses and support staff to conduct occupational [contact tracing](#) for Hanford workers who test positive for COVID-19.

The purpose of contact tracing is to prevent the spread of infectious disease. By identifying workers who have been in contact with an infected person, it is possible to interrupt disease spread. Contact tracing is key to slowing the spread of COVID-19 and helps keep the Hanford workforce and its family members safe.

In accordance with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

guidelines, a nurse from the HPMC OMS COVID-19 Team will interview the infected worker to identify co-workers who may be close contacts. The name of the infected worker is protected during contact tracing. The CDC defines a close contact for COVID-19 as anyone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes, starting from 48 hours before the person began feeling sick until the time the infected person was isolated. See <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html#Contact-Tracing>.

The nurse will then call those identified as close contacts and advise them of the necessary steps they should then take, as per CDC guidelines. The HPMC OMS COVID-19 Team will provide the close contacts with education, information, and support to help them understand risk, how to separate themselves from others who are not exposed, and how to monitor themselves for illness.

For questions relating to your company policies, please see the following COVID-19 points of contact:

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### Contact tracing can stop the spread of COVID-19 at work by:

- Quickly identifying worksite close contacts of workers with COVID-19
- Isolation of sick workers and self-quarantine of asymptomatic contacts
- Working with HPMC OMS COVID-19 team to monitor for illness and facilitate safe return to work

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