

PROTOCOL OF COVID-19 FOR HEALTH CARE WORKERS

As COVID-19 continues to become more prevalent in our community, all staff are required to **self-monitor on a daily basis**. Monitoring should include watching for fever > 100.4 °F (38 °C), new onset of cough, new shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, new onset muscle pain, new onset headache, new onset sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.

- **For the staff member (vaccinated or unvaccinated) that remains asymptomatic:**
 - He/she will continue working while wearing a **facemask**.
 - When COVID-19 testing is performed on an **asymptomatic** staff member (vaccinated or unvaccinated) and the test result is **positive** for COVID-19:
 - RUHS should follow **AFL 21-08.4**, “Guidance on Quarantine for Health Care Personnel (HCP) Exposed to SARS-CoV-2.” In the event that a staffing crisis occurs, the Crisis Strategy Oversight Protocol will be implemented as per CDC guidelines and CDPH AFLs. The Protocol will be implemented at the direction of the House Supervisors, with approval from the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). When approved, **asymptomatic positive staff will continue to work while wearing a face mask, and closely self-monitor for any symptoms described above.**
 - **Repeat testing is not recommended** for unvaccinated or partially vaccinated staff member, during the 90-day period after a positive test. Biweekly testing will resume after 90 days of a positive test.
 - **Repeat testing is not recommended** for fully vaccinated staff member.
 - If the **asymptomatic** staff member (vaccinated or unvaccinated) tests **negative** for COVID-19, staff should continue to work while wearing a face mask.
- **For the staff member (vaccinated or unvaccinated) that is symptomatic:**
 - He/she should report symptoms to their supervisor immediately and should be excluded from work (they must stay home or be sent home immediately).
 - He/she should also contact the Employee COVID-19 Line from 08:00-17:00 Monday through Friday at extension 64897. From outside RUHS, they should call 951-486-4897 or 951-988-9510. He/she will be referred to the appropriate source for COVID-19 testing.
 - If symptomatic and testing, remain home until you have results and are asymptomatic for 24 hours.
 - Sign up for MyChart to get results. Employees WILL NOT be called for negative results.
 - Results usually come back within 24 hours. Please DO NOT call the Staff COVID-19 Line for results, check your MyChart.
 - If the **symptomatic** staff member (vaccinated or unvaccinated) tests **positive** for COVID-19:
 - He/she must remain under home isolation precautions for a minimum of 10 days **since onset of symptoms AND**
 - Resolution of fever for at least 24 hours, after the last fever spike, without the use of fever-reducing medications **AND**
 - Improvement of other symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath, sore throat)
 - Upon returning to work, they will wear a **facemask**.
 - All staff members who test **positive** for COVID-19 are required to be cleared by the Infection Prevention and Control Department before returning to work. For clearance letter, staff should call extension 64692 or 951-486-

4692 during **week days**; and the house supervisors at extension 64204 or 951-486-4204 during **weekends**. Staff must provide the clearance letter to their managers.

- **Repeat testing is not recommended** for fully vaccinated staff member
- If the **symptomatic** staff member (vaccinated or unvaccinated) tests **negative** for COVID-19, he/she may return to work after being asymptomatic for 24 hours continuing to follow all infection control practices.

EMPLOYEES THAT ARE NOT FULLY VACCINATED

RUHS currently has a process in place for COVID-19 screening and testing of COVID-19 Unvaccinated HCP:

- Unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated staff must be tested 2x/week.
- New hires: Occupational Health will verify the vaccination status of all new hires
- N-95 respirators will be available upon request for all unvaccinated staff, working indoors, who come in contact with patients.

EMPLOYEES WILLING TO RECEIVE A COVID-19 VACCINE

- They should contact the COVID-19 Vaccine Line from 07:00-17:00 hours, 7 days a week, at: 1-800-945-6171. They will be referred to the nearest facility available for COVID-19 vaccination.

PROTOCOL FOR FULLY VACCINATED HCW EXPOSED TO COVID-19

At this time, **fully vaccinated persons** should continue to follow **current guidance** to protect themselves and others, including:

- *wearing a mask,*
- *staying at least 6 feet away from others,*
- *avoiding crowds,*
- *avoiding poorly ventilated spaces,*
- *covering coughs and sneezes,*
- *washing hands often,*
- *following [CDC travel guidance](#), and following any applicable workplace guidance related to personal protective equipment use.*

- **Vaccinated persons** with an **exposure** to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 are **not required** to **quarantine** if they have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure.

PROTOCOL FOR HCW WHO TRAVEL OUTSIDE USA DURING COVID-19

All air passengers coming to the United States, including U.S. citizens, are **required** to have a negative COVID-19 test result or documentation of recovery from COVID-19 before they board a flight to the United States. After landing they must follow above protocol.