

Helen Purcell

Policies and Procedures

Department: ALL

Subject: COVID-19 Exposure and Contact Tracing Among Healthcare Personnel/Residents

Date: 3/24/23

Policy Effective Date: **Immediately**

COVID-19 Exposure and Contact Tracing Among Healthcare Personnel/Residents Policy

It is the policy of the Helen Purcell Home to strive to minimize and/or prevent the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) through our facility. Helen Purcell is following the policies of the Ohio Department of Health, the recommendations of the Muskingum County Department of Health, the Center for Disease Control, and our Medical Director as they relate to Residential Care Facilities.

The following procedures are to be followed:

1. At any time, an employee, or resident tests positive for COVID-19 the Director of Resident Health and Administrative Services with assistance of the nurse on duty will gather information for contact tracing.
2. If an employee has tested positive and has been in facility within 48 hours of testing positive all staff and residents that have been in contact with employee will be tested for COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status.
3. At any time, it is unclear on who the employee had contact with, Helen Purcell will test all staff and residents regardless of vaccination status.
4. If a resident tests positive for COVID-19, staff that have been in contact with the resident will be monitored for symptoms. Residents are placed in quarantine for 5-20 days based on severity of symptoms and/or immunocompromised status when testing positive.
5. Asymptomatic staff and residents with close contact with an individual with confirmed COVID-19
 - Have a series of three viral tests for SARS-CoV-2 infection.
 - Testing is recommended immediately (but not earlier than 24 hours after the exposure) and, if negative, again 48 hours after the first negative test and, if negative, again 48 hours after the second negative test. This will typically be on day 1 (where day of exposure is day 0), day 3, and day 5.
6. Due to challenges in interpreting the result, testing is generally not recommended for asymptomatic people who have recovered from SARS-CoV-2 infection in the prior 30 days. Testing should be considered for those who have recovered in the prior 31-90 days; however, an antigen test instead of NAAT (molecular) is recommended. This is because

some people may remain NAAT (molecular) positive but not be infectious during this period.

7. Any employee or resident with symptoms of COVID-19, will receive a COVID-19 test regardless of vaccination status.