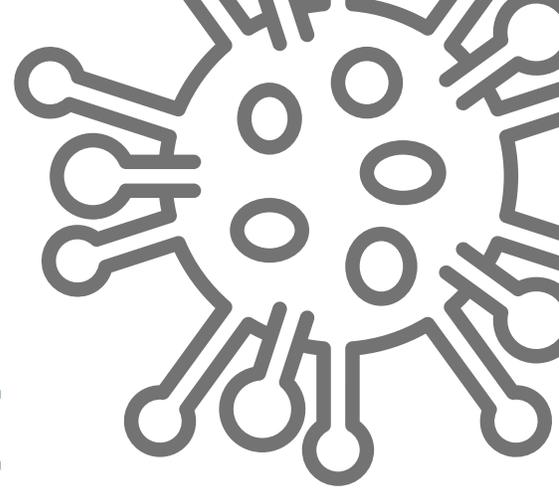


IF YOU'RE A CLOSE CONTACT OF A COVID-19 CASE



With the increase in COVID-19 cases in our area, close contacts may not hear from the health department right away. We ask everyone to follow these steps to help stop the spread.

Start quarantining yourself right away. Stay home except for medical care. Let your employer know you have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 and get tested if you develop symptoms. Do not leave your house to go to the store, visit with family/friends, pick-up dinner, etc.

Does my whole family need to quarantine if only I've been exposed? No. Your family does not need to quarantine unless you start to develop symptoms. Only people with direct contact to the COVID-19 positive case need to quarantine.

Who is considered a close contact? If you were within <6 feet for 15 minutes of the COVID-19 positive case, masks or no masks, you are a close contact.

If I get a negative test do I need to quarantine? A negative COVID test is not a "ticket" to end quarantine early. Because the incubation period of this virus is long, close contacts need to stay home 14 days from your last contact with a positive COVID-19 case, even if you receive a negative test result.

Can I go to work if I'm an essential worker? If you are a frontline essential worker such a healthcare professional, first responder, or childcare provider, you may be able to continue to work if you are symptom-free, but check with your employer first.

Will I get paid if I'm quarantined? The Berrien County Health Department can provide you with documentation for work. Check with your HR department or visit www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic for more information.



**BERRIEN COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT**
better health. stronger communities.

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Information is subject to change at any time.



If you need an isolation or quarantine letter for your employer, you can call the health department at 1-800-815-5485.