COVID-19 Pandemic

Vaccination

Protective Measures

Hierarchy of Controls
GREAT NEWS! THERE ARE VACCINES TO PROTECT US FROM COVID-19!

• There are still unanswered questions…
• Can vaccinated people transmit the virus?
  • Shortly after exposure to COVID-19, the virus concentrates in the nasal passages and throat
• Do the current vaccines trigger the body to produce protective antibodies in the nasal passages?
  • If yes, how long does it take?
  • Can viral transmission occur during this time period?
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

Because we have these unanswered questions, we must continue to practice the protective measures that we’ve been using

- Maintain physical distance
- Wear a face mask
- Practice good hand hygiene
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfection of surfaces
- Enhanced ventilation
WHAT ARE THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAYS TO PROTECT WORKERS?

• Conduct a workplace hazard assessment to identify risk of exposure
• Comply with applicable OSHA regulations/standards
• Consider NIOSH recommendations, CDC guidance, and industry “best practices” when choosing hazard abatement methods
• Employ the “hierarchy of controls” when implementing a comprehensive infection control
Hierarchy of Controls

Applying the Hierarchy of Controls for COVID-19

- Elimination
  - Social Isolation
- Substitution
  - Not applicable
- Engineering Controls
  - Ventilation, physical barriers
- Administrative Controls
  - Work from home, stagger schedules, hand hygiene
- PPE
  - Masks, respirators, gloves

Adapted from NIOSH
Hierarchy of Controls

Elimination

• **Social Isolation** - Stay at home, avoid public areas, work remotely, virtual meetings

Engineering Controls

• Ventilation
• Physical barriers and partitions
• Air purifier using HEPA filter
• Eliminate touchpoints in high traffic areas
Hierarchy of Controls

Administrative Controls

• Social Distancing
• Use signage floor and wall markings to promote distancing
• Stagger Schedules
• Work from Home
• Good Hand Hygiene
• Do not touch eyes, nose, mouth, and face
Hierarchy of Controls

Administrative Controls

• Cough and Sneeze Etiquette Procedure
• Disinfection procedures
• Health monitoring
Hierarchy of Controls

PPE (and other equipment)

- Respirators (N95)
- Cloth mask
- Gloves
- Face shield
REMEMBER – It’s not one thing, it is applying all to reduce exposure and prevent spread!!

- Use of cloth masks
- Use of social distancing
- Regularly washing hands with soap and water for 20 seconds
- Use of hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol
- Clean and disinfect surfaces that are frequently touched or shared equipment, tools, or other items
- Ensure proper ventilation
Thank you for your Participation