



Osservatorio Nazionale

delle Buone Pratiche sulla sicurezza nella Sanità

Level: Local Health Authority

Topic: Surveillance

Contact details:

GUIDANCE ABOUT SURVEILLANCE OF COVID-19 AMONG STAFF OF THE PROVINCIAL HEALTH AUTHORITY OF RAGUSA

The document is ment for providing guidance for managing cases where staff (healthcare, professional, technical and administrative staff) with possible Covid-19 contacts. The purpose is to keep delivering the essential services aimed at population care and assistance ensuring the safety of staff in relation to condition of potential and/or possible exposure to Covid-19.

Once a covid-19 infection is ascertained, the hospital management identifies workers who had contact with the Covid-19 case without using PPE. The Medical Prevention department will investigate possible contacts taking place outside the workplace. Once the actual exposure is assessed the list of the healthcare workers for which surveillance is required is sent to the competent physician.

The competent physician contacts the healthcare workers for the anamnestic assessment, which takes place as follows:

- PERSON WITH SYMPTOMS → swab test is carried out
If tested **positive**, he/she will not be admitted to the workplace, will be isolated for 14 days and self-monitor own conditions

If tested **negative**, he/she will not be admitted to workplace, will be isolated for 14 days and self-monitor own conditions. Re-assessment will be carried out at the resolution of the symptoms with a second swab test

- PERSON WITH NO SYMPTOMS → swab test is carried out
If tested **positive**, he/she will not be admitted to the workplace, will be isolated and self-monitor own conditions

If tested negative, he/she will be admitted to the workplace with PPE and surgical mask, self-monitoring of own conditions.

The swab test is repeated every 48 hours until day 14 from the contact with the Covid-19 case. In case of symptoms onset or positive swab test, the worker is suspended from work and isolated for 14 days with active monitoring and possible re-assessment. In case of symptoms onset, procedure for person with symptoms should be followed.

HEALTHCARE WORKERS SURVEILLANCE

The Hospital management should sensitize healthcare workers towards reporting as soon as possible the onset of respiratory symptoms (whether it occurred on the workplace or



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not), so that specific provision related to the symptomatic picture and potential/possible exposure.

It is therefore essential that healthcare workers self-monitor their condition and suspend their work in case of respiratory symptoms or if they tested positive.

All healthcare workers who tested positive, must test negative twice in 24 hours in order to be considered recovered.