COVID-19 Contact Tracing

Contact tracing slows the spread of COVID-19 by:

- Gathering relevant information from the person who tested positive for COVID-19 to identify close contacts.
- Letting close contacts know they have been exposed and should monitor their health for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.
- Asking people to self-isolate if they have COVID-19 or self-quarantine if they are a close contact of someone with COVID-19.
- Participating in the contact tracing process helps protect you, your family, and your community by slowing the spread of COVID-19.

Technology

- The South Dakota Department of Health will provide secure web-based questionnaires to aid in the contact tracing process.
- If you tested positive for COVID-19, you may receive a health assessment questionnaire that asks about your health and those you may have been in close contact with.
- It is important to be forthcoming as the information gathered is vital to stopping the spread of disease.
- Meanwhile, the people you identified as close contacts may receive notification from the SD DOH asking about their health. They will also receive guidance on testing and quarantining.
- Links to questionnaires will come via email or text message and include a phone number you can call if you have questions or concerns.
- Some individuals will receive a phone call if a mobile phone number or email address is not reported to the SD DOH.

Security and Safety

- Contact tracing automated email assessments from the South Dakota Department of Health will come from sddoh@qemailserver.com.
- If you receive a call, text or email regarding contact tracing and you are unsure if it’s legitimate, please call the South Dakota Department of Health COVID-19 Call Center at 1-800-997-2880.
- Contact tracers will NEVER ask for your social security number, bank information, or credit card number.
- Information gathered during the contact tracing process is confidential.

EMAIL EXAMPLE

The South Dakota Department of Health has important health information to share with you. You will be provided this health information within a secure portal and asked a series of questions. The information you provide is kept confidential and will help prevent the spread of illness to others. Total length of time to complete the questionnaire should be approximately 10 minutes.

If you are responsible for completing the survey for several individuals, please be aware you will receive one survey invite per individual.

To begin, follow this link: Survey Link

Note: This link will expire, however we request you complete the survey within 24 hours of receipt.

If you are uncertain if this notification is legitimate, please call the South Dakota Department of Health Call Center at 1-800-997-2880.

Thank you, in advance, for providing the requested information to help us prevent additional illness in your community and in South Dakota.

Sincerely,
South Dakota Department of Health

Note: Please do not reply to this email. This mailbox is not being monitored.

Follow the link to opt out of future emails: Click here to unsubscribe

TEXT MESSAGE EXAMPLE

The SD Dept of Health has important health info to share with you. Please complete the questionnaire in the link below: SURVEY LINK

If you are unable to access the questionnaire please access the following link to submit a request to the SD Dept of Health: https://bit.ly/DOHInquiry

Text STOP to opt-out
COVID-19 TEST RESULTS

POSITIVE TEST RESULTS

✔ Isolate at home for a minimum of 10 days after your symptoms started (or if not experiencing symptoms, 10 days after your positive test), until you have been fever-free without use of fever-reducing medications for 24 hours, and experience improvement in symptoms.

✔ Please inform close contacts* right away if you are COVID-19 positive. All close contacts, regardless of vaccination status, should watch for symptoms for 14 days. If symptoms appear, they should isolate and contact their provider.

CLOSE CONTACTS

✔ Unvaccinated close contacts without symptoms, should quarantine for 10 days after their last exposure, but should mask and continue to monitor for symptoms through the 14th day. Unvaccinated close contacts may be able to shorten their quarantine by testing negative on or after day 5 from the date of their last exposure, provided they remain without symptoms. If the unvaccinated close contact tests negative on or after day 5, they may resume normal activities on day 8, but should mask and monitor for symptoms through the 14th day.

✔ Fully vaccinated** close contacts without symptoms do not need to quarantine, but should get tested 3-5 days after last exposure and wear a mask in indoor public settings for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result.

✔ Close contacts who have had a positive antibody test within the 90 days prior to exposure or immediately after and remain without symptoms, do not need to quarantine, but should mask and monitor for symptoms for 14 days.

✔ Close contacts who have had COVID-19 illness within the 90 days prior to exposure, have recovered, and remain without symptoms, do not need to quarantine, but should mask and monitor for symptoms for 14 days.

NEGATIVE TEST RESULTS

✔ Continue to watch for symptoms for 14 days.

✔ Fully vaccinated** people who test negative and have been exposed to COVID-19 do not need to quarantine or stay home provided they remain without symptoms.

*Close contact or exposed means being within 6 feet of someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 for 15 cumulative minutes or more within a 24 hour period.

**Fully vaccinated is more than 2 weeks from the last dose of your COVID-19 vaccine series, either 2 weeks after a single dose vaccine or 2 weeks after your second dose in a two-dose vaccine.