JABSOM COVID-19 Communication Protocol
8/21/20

Updates since 7/27/20 highlighted in yellow

This communication protocol related to COVID-19 is meant to further clarify JABSOM-specific processes in accordance with the UH COVID Interim Guidelines. This protocol applies to all JABSOM employees and learners, including those working on the UH Manoa campus or in a clinical training site. Per UH guidelines as well as Hawaii State Department of Health, COVID-19 is a mandatory reportable disease during this current public health emergency. The safety of our entire JABSOM and UH ohana, including our own family members and patients that we care for are of utmost importance. Due to the significant impact that the COVID-19 pandemic is currently having on our community, we must do our part to minimize exposure to and slow the spread of COVID-19 at JABSOM and in the community. For those of us working in a healthcare setting, we have an even higher level of professional responsibility to keep everyone safe. We ask that everyone follow the following guidelines related to safety measures, illness or symptom response, notification of potential COVID-19 exposures and actions regarding positive test results for COVID-19. We ask that everyone complete the daily screening and self-monitoring reporting through the Lumisight UH app or website when you come to the Kaka’ako campus (or any other UH school campus). If you have any symptoms or have had contact with a person who has tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus, stay home and follow the protocol below.

For the purposes of this communication protocol, our JABSOM designated campus officials are Dr. Jill Omori (808-221-0685) or Dr. Lee Buenconsejo-Lum (808-426-3379). JABSOM Residents and Fellows will continue to report according to their specific guidelines.

General Safety

- Please adhere to all recommended handwashing, sanitizing of your personal work and eating spaces, physical distancing and face covering guidelines, both in and out of the workplace. Community transmission is occurring on Oahu. Recent clusters have been related to gyms, family or social gatherings or going to restaurants without sufficient physical distancing or wearing of face coverings. Clusters in healthcare facilities have been related to employees exposing others in breakrooms or other enclosed spaces.
- Please note that we continue to monitor the community transmission closely and may further alter the physical spacing inside and outside of our cafeteria.

For those working in the BSB or research areas, there may be more specific safety and reporting guidance applicable to you.

Symptoms: Staying at home if you are sick and self-reporting

- Stay home if you are sick and seek medical care as needed.
- Drink plenty of water and other clear liquids to prevent dehydration.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes. Stay in your own room if at all possible.
- Wash or clean your hands often with hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
• If you are experiencing symptoms that could be consistent with COVID-19, please contact your primary care physician to determine if testing is recommended. If you do not have a primary care physician, please call either the Queen’s Medical Center COVID-19 infoline (808-691-2619) or the Hawaii Pacific Health Virtual Clinic (808-462-5430 (Press option 2). According to the CDC, the symptoms of COVID-19 may include the following symptoms that are new, worsening or not attributable to a pre-existing condition:
  o Fever (>100.4 F) or feeling feverish (chills, cold sweats)
  o Cough
  o Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  o Sore throat, nasal congestion, runny nose
  o Unexplained muscle or body aches, headache, fatigue
  o New loss of taste or smell
  o Diarrhea, nausea, vomiting
  o Unexplained skin rash
  o Chest pain or pressure

Possible exposure to someone with COVID
• If you are exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, stay home and notify your immediate supervisor and either JABSOM designated campus official: Dr. Jil Omori (808-221-0685) or Dr. Lee Buenconsejo-Lum (808-426-3379) for further instructions.
  o Exposure is considered
    ▪ Being within 6 ft of a positive individual for longer than 15 minutes without proper personal protective equipment (PPE).
    ▪ Directly coughed or sneezed on by a COVID-positive individual
    ▪ Hugging, kissing or using eating or drinking utensils of an infected individual
    ▪ Providing care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19
    ▪ Hawaii Department of Health (DOH) telling you that you have been in contact with a person with COVID-19
    ▪ Someone who lives with you or works closely with you being told by DOH to stay home/quarantine
  o For those with possible exposure in healthcare settings: In general, if the positive individual was wearing a mask or facial covering at the time of contact, then proper PPE for the healthcare provider (HCP) would only be a surgical mask. However, if the positive individual was not wearing a mask or facial covering at the time of contact, then proper PPE would include both a mask AND eye protection (goggles or face shield). Note that as the pandemic evolves, this guidance may change.

Testing or having a diagnosis of COVID-19
• If you get tested for COVID-19 because you have symptoms or because you were exposed to someone with COVID-19 (or told to get the test from DOH or employee health at a health care facility), you MUST stay home and quarantine until you receive the results of your test and are approved to return to work or school. Subsequent actions (including duration of quarantine and monitoring) depend upon your health status, test results, nature of any potential exposure and other factors. Please contact your immediate supervisor and either JABSOM-designated
If you are diagnosed with COVID-19:
  o Stay home and isolate
  o Contact your immediate supervisor and either JABSOM-designated campus official: Dr. Jill Omori (808-221-0685) or Dr. Lee Buenconsejo-Lum (808-426-3379). Dr. Omori and/or Dr. Buenconsejo-Lum will work with you and your supervisor and the Hawaii State Department of Health to determine if anyone in the workplace was potentially exposed to you and will recommend quarantine for those individuals as needed.
  o Cooperate with the Department of Health in their contact tracing efforts and follow all recommendations set forth by them.
  o You must remain in isolation until ALL of the following criteria have been met:
    ▪ **Mild symptoms**: 10 days have elapsed from the onset of symptoms (or from the date of a positive test for asymptomatic individuals)
      * At least 20 days if severely ill with COVID or immunocompromised
    ▪ You have been without a fever (≥100.4°F) without the use of any fever reducing medications (i.e. acetaminophen or ibuprofen) for at least 24 hours
    ▪ Other symptoms of COVID are improving*
      * Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation

Returning to work and required documentation
  o Please note that criteria for returning to work continues to evolve, especially for healthcare providers (HCP) and learners (medical students, resident and fellows). The specific clearance strategy may also change depending on the availability of testing throughout Hawaii. For JABSOM ohana working in clinical environments, that healthcare facility's requirements may supersede this JABSOM or UH guidance. For your information, the CDC guidance for clearance of HCP (as of August 10, 2020) is the following, but the others in Hawaii use very similar criteria for non-HCP:
    ▪ Symptom-based clearance strategy. Exclude from work/school until
      * At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever (without the use of fever-reducing medications) and
      * Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough or shortness of breath) and
      * At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared
        o 20 days if severely immunocompromised or you were severely ill with COVID
    ▪ Test-based clearance strategy is presently used for some healthcare providers. Protocols will vary by facility.
  o For those who were tested (due to symptoms or exposure) and found to be COVID-negative: Submit your written return to work clearance from your PCP to your immediate supervisor. Medical students, please submit this information to OSA. The clearance should include all days for which you were absent from work/school.
For COVID-positive/confirmed: Submit the written clearance for return to work/school that is issued from the Department of Health or your PCP to your immediate supervisor. The clearance should include all days for which you were absent from work/school. Medical students should submit their clearance to OSA. Dr. Buenconsejo-Lum will review all return to work notes to ensure CDC recommendations have been met.

FYI: What happens when I notify my supervisor or campus official?

- Although COVID-19 is a mandatory reportable condition to the Hawaii State Department of Health, we will always limit the information to those who need to know for human resources purposes, proper safety and cleaning, and determination of need for contact tracing or additional testing.
- Human resources, environmental health services and facilities teams will work with the Department or Program to ensure proper follow-up and cleaning occurs if an employee or student who tests positive was working on-site prior to showing symptoms.
- Supervisors will remind potentially exposed individuals to maintain strict confidentiality of the COVID-positive co-worker.

Question: What if my household member has traveled and is subject to the local 14-day quarantine and they are not able to self-isolate from the employee?

- The individual should discuss their circumstance with their supervisor or academic lead for learners. There may be alternative ways to maintain physical separation, monitor symptoms, and/or minimize employee/student contact in the work/study place that could minimize risk to other employees or students.
- Current CDC, DOH and hospital policy is generally as follows
  - Returning household traveler should quarantine as much as possible
  - The employee/residents/student self-monitor for symptoms and conduct twice daily temp checks but does not need to quarantine if they do not have any symptoms
  - The HCP must 100% adhere to surgical mask and other PPE rules.
  - If non-clinical staff, they should still be adherent to 100% use of facial coverings, and physical distancing
  - If the HCP or employee has ANY symptoms, they cannot come to work and need to notify their supervisor.
  - Based on the contact with someone who was in a high-risk area/travel in the past 14 days, the HPC or employee may be referred for testing (once they have symptoms).