Exposure Risk Categories

These categories should be considered interim and subject to change

The following categories may not cover all potential exposure scenarios and should not replace an individual assessment of risk for the purpose of clinical decision making or individualized public health management. The following risk levels apply to travel associated and community settings.

All exposures apply to the 14 days prior to assessment and recommendations apply until 14 days after the exposure event.

High Risk

- Living in the same household as, being an intimate partner of, or providing care in a non healthcare setting (such as a home) for a person with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 infection without using recommended precautions for home care and home isolation.
- The same risk assessment applies for the above-listed exposures to a person diagnosed clinically with COVID-19 infection outside of the U.S. who did not have laboratory testing.

Medium Risk

- Close contact with a person with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 infection, and not having any exposures that meet a high-risk definition.
 - The same risk assessment applies for close contact with a person diagnosed clinically with COVID-19 infection outside of the U.S. who did not have laboratory testing.
 - On an aircraft, being sedated within 6 feet of a traveler with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 infection; this distance correlates approximately with 2 seats in each direction.
- Living in the same household as, an intimate partner of, or caring for a person in a nonhealthcare setting (such as a home) to a person with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 infection while consistently using recommended precautions for home care and home isolation.

Low Risk

- Being in the same indoor environment (e.g., a classroom, a hospital waiting room) as a person with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 for a prolonged period of time but not meeting the definition of close contact
- On an aircraft, being seated within two rows of a traveler with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 but not within 6 feet AND not having any exposures that meet a medium- or high-risk definition

No Identifiable Risk

- Interactions with a person with symptomatic laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 infection that do not meet any of the high, medium, or low risk conditions above, such as walking by the person or being briefly in the same room
- If you have been in close contact with someone with confirmed COVID-19 in the past 2 weeks and develop symptoms, call your doctor