



INYO COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES PUBLIC HEALTH BRIEF

James Richardson, M.D.
Public Health Officer, Inyo County
760-873-7868

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Interim Guidance for General Industry Employers

Who this is for: The following interim guidance may help employers plan and prevent workplace exposures to acute respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19, in non-healthcare settings. To prevent stigma and discrimination in the workplace, use only the listed resources and guidance described below to determine risk of COVID-19. Do not make determinations of risk based on race or country of origin, and be sure to maintain confidentiality of people with confirmed COVID-19.

Prevention Measures

- Promote frequent and thorough hand washing, by providing workers, customers, and worksite visitors with a place to wash their hands or alcohol-based hand rubs containing at least 60% alcohol.
- Routinely clean all frequently touched surfaces in the workplace, such as workstations, countertops, and doorknobs. Use the cleaning agents that are usually used in these areas and follow the directions on the label.
- Avoid crowding by using booking and scheduling to stagger customer flow.

Outbreak Planning Considerations

- Prepare for possible increased numbers of employee absences due to illness in employees and their family members, dismissals of early childhood programs and K-12 schools
- Consider cross-training personnel to perform essential functions so that the workplace is able to operate even if key staff members are absent

Sick Employees

- Emphasize staying home when sick, respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene by all employees
- Do not require a healthcare provider's note for employees who are sick with acute respiratory illness to validate their illness or to return to work, as healthcare provider offices and medical facilities are extremely busy and not able to provide such documentation in a timely way. For more information involving return to work criteria see Inyo County Interim Guidance on Criteria to Return to Work document.

Car Sharing

- Limit car sharing as much as possible
- If car sharing is necessary keep windows open, increase ventilation, and regularly disinfect surfaces

Outside Work

- Practice social distancing: attempt to stay 6 ft away from other employees when possible

For more in-depth information for employers planning and response for COVID-19, please refer to the CDC's [Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers](#), OSHA's [Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19](#) and [Interim Guidelines for General Industry on 2019 Novel Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\)](#), and Labor & Workforce Development Agency's [Benefits for Workers Resources for Employers and Workers](#)

For more information please contact Inyo County COVID-19 Business Liaison, Leslie Chapman, at 760-937-7958