



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Oregon Department of Human Services

*Safety, Oversight and Quality*

PO Box 14530, Salem, OR 97309

Phone: (503) 373-2227

Fax (503) 378-896



### **NF-22-001 – Provider Alert**

Date: January 4, 2022

To: All Nursing Facility Providers  
All Assisted Living Providers  
All Residential Care Facility Providers

From: Aging and People with Disabilities  
ODHS Safety, Oversight and Quality Unit (SOQ)

Subject: Interim Guidance for Managing Healthcare Personnel with  
SARS-CoV-2 Infection or Exposure

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As of December 23, 2021, due to concerns about increased transmissibility of the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron variant, guidance has been updated to enhance protection for healthcare personnel, residents, and visitors, and to address concerns about potential impacts on the healthcare system given a surge of SARS-CoV-2 infections.

In general, asymptomatic HCP who have had a higher-risk exposure do not require work restriction if they have received all COVID-19 vaccine doses, including booster dose, as recommended by CDC and do not develop symptoms or test positive for SARS-CoV-2. The duration of protection offered by booster doses of vaccine and their effect on emerging variants are not clear; additional updates will be provided as more information becomes available.

These updates will be refined as additional information becomes available.

- Ensure that SARS-CoV-2 testing is performed with a test that is capable of detecting external icon SARS-CoV-2, even with currently circulating variants in the United States.

- Updated recommendations regarding when HCP with SARS-CoV-2 infection could return to work
- The definition of higher-risk exposure was updated to include use of a facemask (instead of a respirator) by HCP if the infected patient is not also wearing a facemask or cloth mask.
- Added options that would allow asymptomatic HCP with a higher-risk exposure who have not received all COVID-19 vaccine doses, including booster dose, as recommended by CDC to return to work prior to the previously recommended 14-day post-exposure period of work restriction, assuming they do not develop symptoms or test positive for SARS-CoV-2.

Please follow the two links below for a summary of changes:

[Current CDC Guidance](#) (Updated December 23, 2021)

Interim Guidance for Managing Healthcare Personnel with SARS-CoV-2 Infection or Exposure to SARS-CoV-2

[Current OHA Guidance](#) (December 30 2021)

Interim Guidance for Managing Healthcare Personnel with SARSCoV-2 Infection or Exposure