



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

The COVID 19 Challenge: Managing sick/exposed employees at work and returning to work

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- **Deborah R. Roy, M.P.H., RN, COHN-S, CSP, CIT, FASSP, FAAOHN**, is president of SafeTech Consultants Inc., providing safety consulting for global clients. Roy has more than 35 years of occupational safety and health experience and is past corporate director of health, safety and wellness at L.L.Bean. She has been involved in pandemic planning at worksites and at the state and federal levels for the last 12 years. Roy wrote “Preparing For a Pandemic: Lessons From H1N1” that was published in ASSP’s Professional Safety journal in 2011. ASSP interviewed Roy about the COVID-19 outbreak and posted an online article titled “The Safety Professionals Role in Planning for a Pandemic” on March 2, 2020.

Agenda – What we are going to talk about

- Opening comments from Deb Roy
- Discussion and Questions and Answers Impacting: The COVID 19 Challenge: Managing sick/exposed employees at work and returning to work
- Information is specific for this moment in time
- Deb is giving her perspective based on her experience and this approach might not be applicable to all



Our Agenda - Continued

- Status of the public health response in the US today
- Known disease transmission
- Employees ill at work
- Employees exposed at work
- Cleaning and disinfecting
- Returning recovered employees to work
- Returning exposed employees to work



Questions and Answers

- Questions have been submitted by ASSP members and OSH Professionals
- Emphasis is on practical techniques and approaches based on the scientific literature
- Review suggestions and consider for implementation in your workplace
- Important – Does not impact the need to do a risk assessment

References

- Modes of transmission of virus causing COVID-19

<https://www.who.int/news-room/commentaries/detail/modes-of-transmission-of-virus-causing-covid-19-implications-for-ipc-precaution-recommendations>

- Transmission Potential of SARS-CoV-2 in Viral Shedding Observed at the University of Nebraska Medical Center

<https://www.nebraskamed.com/COVID/study-documents-widespread-contamination-of-the-environment-near-patients-with-covid-19>

- Public Health Recommendations for People in U.S. Communities Exposed to a Person with Known or Suspected COVID-19, other than Health Workers or other Critical Infrastructure Workers

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-health-recommendations.html>

- Interim U.S. Guidance for Risk Assessment and Public Health Management of Healthcare Personnel with Potential Exposure in a Healthcare Setting to Patients with Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html>



References

- Discontinuation of Home Isolation for Persons with COVID-19

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html>

- Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Disposition of Patients with COVID-19 in Healthcare Settings

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-hospitalized-patients.html>

- Cleaning and disinfecting your facility

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>



References

- CDC guidance on decontamination and reuse of Disposable filtering facepiece respirators: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/decontamination-reuse-respirators.html>
- Information on the public using masks: <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/04/commentary-masks-all-covid-19-not-based-sound-data?fbclid=IwAR3tOVwhogO64PrNVmtSZmLQZUbdj0gqVxolsjlan6iGKNB611wOS-e1NFI>
- CDC guidance on cloth face coverings to slow spread of COVID-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>



Final Comments and Conclusion

- Final comments from Deb Roy
- Reminder - Information is specific for this moment in time
- Reminder - Deb is giving her perspective based on her experience and this approach might not be applicable to all
- Submit questions via the website

Thank You for Attending!!!



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