COVID-19 – Updates on CDC Guidance

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If you have trouble hearing through your computer, call in via phone:
415-655-0003
Access code: 127 178 0579
Construction and COVID-19 Updates

G. Scott Earnest, Ph.D., P.E.
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

17 June 2020
NIOSH COVID Research Projects

• Fit capability of respirators w/o NIOSH certification
• Evaluating decontamination methods of respirators
• Extended N95 respirator wear on facial thermal burden
• Evaluating mobile apps for digital contact tracing
• Point of use air purification systems
• Suicide surveillance during the pandemic
This study demonstrates that simulated sunlight rapidly inactivates SARS-CoV-2 in small-particle aerosols, suggesting that exposure risk may vary significantly across different environmental conditions.
# NPPTL Respirator Assessments to Support the COVID-19 Response

*Updated June 16, 2020*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manufacturer/Model</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Test Code 1</th>
<th>Test Code 2</th>
<th>Test Code 3</th>
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<td>GB19083</td>
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[https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/respirators/testing/NonNIOSHresults.html](https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/respirators/testing/NonNIOSHresults.html)
Employees: How to Cope with Job Stress and Build Resilience During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Whether you are going into work or working from home, the COVID-19 pandemic has probably changed the way you work. Fear and anxiety about this new disease and other strong emotions can be overwhelming, and workplace stress can lead to burnout. How you cope with these emotions and stress can affect your well-being, the well-being of the people you care about, your workplace, and your community. During this pandemic, it is critical that you recognize what stress looks like, take steps to build your resilience and manage job stress, and know where to go if you need help.
For More Information


- NIOSH Directory of Construction Resources  [https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/construction/default.html](https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/construction/default.html)


Protecting the Safety and Health of Workers
Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Chris Brown and Timothy Irving
Occupational Safety and Health Administration
Protecting workers from risk of exposure to COVID-19

- OSHA is coordinating closely with CDC, including NIOSH, and other federal agencies to monitor the ongoing pandemic.

- OSHA’s message is clear:
  - Employers should have a plan for protecting workers and preventing further spread of disease, as well as maintaining the employer’s day-to-day functions.

www.osha.gov/coronavirus
OSHA is closely coordinating with CDC, including NIOSH, and other agencies to monitor the ongoing pandemic.

The risk of exposure in many workplaces likely reflects the risk to the general public in the community where the workplace is located.

Risk increases when workers have frequent, close contact with the general public or other coworkers.

www.osha.gov/coronavirus
Occupational exposure risks

- Workers in other sectors, including some in critical infrastructure, may be at risk because of frequent or long-duration contact with coworkers:
  - Food processing (including meatpacking)
  - Manufacturing
  - Construction
  - Oil and gas
  - Other sectors where workers would typically be within 6 feet of one another

www.osha.gov/coronavirus
OSHA guidance: Worker Exposure Risk

- Four exposure risk levels:
  - Lower (or caution)
  - Medium
  - High
  - Very high

- Most are likely in lower or medium exposure risk level

- Employers should carefully examine the specific risks in their workplaces and plan accordingly

- Workers’ risks in many industries may reflect the risk to the rest of the public in a particular community

www.osha.gov/coronavirus
For all workers, regardless of specific exposure risks:

- Implement physical distancing to maintain at least 6 feet between workers
- Practice good and frequent hand hygiene
- Increased cleaning and disinfecting of common surfaces, tools
- Use of appropriate PPE
- Employers should consider flexible sick leave policies

www.osha.gov/coronavirus
OSHA guidance

- OSHA has developed a variety of guidance materials for workers and employers on how to stay healthy during the pandemic.

- OSHA.gov/coronavirus includes information on implementing the hierarchy of controls when workers have specific exposure risks.

www.osha.gov/coronavirus
OSHA guidance

OSHA Alerts

- COVID-19 Guidance for the Construction Workforce
- COVID-19 Guidance for the Manufacturing Industry Workforce
- COVID-19 Guidance for the Package Delivery Workforce
- COVID-19 Guidance for Retail Workers
- Prevent Worker Exposure to Coronavirus (COVID-19)

www.osha.gov/coronavirus
## Construction Work Tasks and Associated Risk

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lower (caution)</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Very High</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| - Tasks that allow employees to remain at least 6 feet apart and involve little contact with the public, visitors, or customers. Note: For activities in the lower (caution) risk category, OSHA’s [Interim Guidance for Workers and Employers of Workers at Lower Risk of Exposure](https://www.osha.gov/health-topics/coronavirus) may be most appropriate. | - Tasks that require workers to be within 6 feet of one another.  
- Tasks that require workers to be in close contact (within 6 feet) with customers, visitors, or members of the public. | - Entering an indoor work site occupied by people such as other workers, customers, or residents suspected of having or known to have COVID-19, including when an occupant of the site reports signs and symptoms consistent with COVID-19. Note: Employers may consider delaying this work. | - Category not applicable for most anticipated work tasks. Note: Most construction work tasks are associated with no more than high exposure risk; see the work tasks associated with lower, medium, or high risk on this chart. |
Safe Work Practices

- Adopt staggered work schedules, e.g., provide alternating workdays or extra shifts, to reduce the total number of employees on a job site at any given time and to ensure physical distancing.
- Identify choke points where workers are forced to stand together, such as hallways, hoists and elevators, ingress and egress points, break areas, and buses, and implement policies to maintain social distancing.
- In elevators and personnel hoists, ensure 6 feet distance between passengers in all directions and equip operators with appropriate respiratory protection and other necessary PPE.
Safe Work Practices

- Coordinate site deliveries in line with the employer's minimal contact and cleaning protocols. Delivery personnel should remain in their vehicles if at all possible.
- Institute a rigorous housekeeping program to reduce dust levels on the job site.
- Keep in-person meetings (including toolbox talks and safety meetings) as short as possible, limit the number of workers in attendance, and use social distancing practices.
- Ensure clean toilet and handwashing facilities. Clean and disinfect portable job site toilets regularly. Fill hand sanitizer dispensers regularly. Disinfect frequently touched items (i.e., door pulls and toilet seats) regularly.
Cloth Face Coverings

- CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings as a protective measure in addition to social distancing (i.e., staying at least 6 feet away from others). Cloth face coverings may be especially important when social distancing is not possible or feasible based on working conditions.

- Cloth face coverings are intended to protect other people—not the wearer.
For continual updates

- **Visit OSHA’s website to sign up to receive OSHA information:**
  - QuickTakes biweekly newsletter *(287,000+ subscribers)*
  - Tip of the Day *(33,700+ subscribers)*
  - [www.osha.gov/contactus](http://www.osha.gov/contactus)

- **Follow OSHA on social media**
  - Twitter: @OSHA_DOL *(21,500+ followers)*
  - Facebook: Follow the Department of Labor page

[www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)
Trenching Safety Stand-Down

June 15-19, 2020

Approximately 50,000 participants in 2019
Cooperative Programs

- **On-Site Consultation Program**
  - Free safety and health advice to help small businesses identify hazards and comply with OSHA regulations

- **Voluntary Protection Program**

- **Alliances**
  - OSHA-ITA Alliance for 16 years
  - Support for OSHA Initiatives (such as Safe + Sound campaign)
Questions?

- Chris Brown, Special Assistant, Office of the Assistant Secretary
- Timothy Irving, Deputy Director of Construction
- OSHA Directorate of Technical Support and Emergency Management

Phone: 202-693-2300

www.osha.gov/coronavirus
CPWR COVID-19 Construction Clearinghouse

Chris Cain
17 June 2020 CPWR Webinar
The scientific community's understanding of how the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) spreads is evolving. This COVID-19 Clearinghouse was established as a central resource for construction employers and workers to find the latest research, guidance documents, training and other resources to help prevent the spread of the disease as construction work continues in some markets and starts up in others. The information posted is accurate as of the date posted. Every effort will be made to include only the latest information; however, since the situation is evolving, please let us know if more timely information is available.

Enter search terms...
News & Related Information

- **Oregon** - Builders create task force to assess, share job safety practices amid COVID-19
  - Posted On: 05/04/20
  - News Channel 21, April 25, 2020 - Report on the new COVID-19 Joint Construction Safety Task Force launched by the Oregon State Building Trades Council to help construction contractors follow current guidelines and protect workers while continuing to do business. The Task Force includes representatives from building trades unions, industry partners, management and employer representatives. They are assisted by Oregon OSHA consultants.

- **NABTU - Coronavirus Update**
  - Posted On: 05/03/20
  - Updates from North America’s Building Trades Unions (NABTU) on the Coronavirus.

- **CDC - COVIDview**
  - Posted On: 05/03/20
  - A weekly Surveillance Summary of U.S. COVID-19 Activity

- **CDC - Testing in the US**
  - Posted On: 04/29/20
  - This Map includes states and territories with one or more labs that have successfully verified and are currently using COVID-19 diagnostic tests.

- **Selected articles**
- **5 articles listed**
- **The rest will be archived**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource Categories</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>About the Virus (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employer Recommendations &amp; Requirements (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guidance on Workplace Practices (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health Resources (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Protective Equipment (11)</td>
</tr>
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<td>Research Findings (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety in Action (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State &amp; Local Requirements (4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training Resources (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webinars, Podcasts &amp; Social Media (6)</td>
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</table>
Employer Recommendations & Requirements

**CAL/OSHA - Safety and Health Guidance COVID-19 Infection Prevention in Construction (April 24, 2020)**

**Description:**
This guidance document contains ways for construction employers to update their required Injury and Illness Prevention Programs (IIPP) to include information on employee training and preventing the spread of COVID-19 at construction sites.

**Source:** California Department of Industrial Relations Division of Occupational Safety & Health (CAL/OSHA)

**Date:** 05/04/20

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**CDC - Guidance for Businesses & Employers (3/21/2020)**

**Description:**
This interim guidance is intended to help prevent workplace exposures and prepare workplaces for a COVID-19 outbreak.

**Source:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

**Date:** 05/03/20

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**CDC - Prepare your Small Business and Employees for the Effects of COVID-19**

**Description:**

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What goes into each Resource Category?

1. **About the Virus:** background information on the disease, trends, etc.

2. **Guidance on Workplace Practices:** procedures or recommendations for how to protect workers and prevent the spread on construction sites, such as hand washing, distancing, and other protocols.

3. **Safety in Action:** examples of ways safe practices are being implemented on job sites (e.g., providing hand washing facilities, maintaining distancing at choke points).

4. **Training Resources:** videos, presentations, toolbox talks, etc.

5. **Employer Recommendations & Requirements:** formal requirements and/or recommendations, such as the *NABTU and CPWR COVID-19 Standards for U.S. Construction Sites*, bargaining language, etc.
6. **State and Local Requirements**: state and local government COVID-19 policies that impact the construction industry

7. **Research Findings**: studies, reports, and data on the spread, impact, or prevention of COVID-19

8. **Personal Protective Equipment**: information on use of respirators and other PPE to protect against COVID-19

9. **Mental Health Resources**: resources to help address the risk for suicide, opioid use, etc. due to COVID-19

10. **Webinars, Podcasts & Social Media**: focused on COVID-19
Please include:

1. **In the subject line** – a short description/title of the material

2. **In the body of the email** – the material’s source, date, related documentation of permission to post (if from a 3rd party) or a note indicating the organization that needs to be contacted for permission*

3. **In the body of the email** – the section of the site the item falls under (Resource Category or Categories, News & Related Information)

*NOTE: CPWR can link to items available online without obtaining permission. However, materials posted directly on the site, such as peer-reviewed articles, photos, etc. require permission from the publication, owner of the photo, etc.*
Outline

- Symptoms and symptom screening
  - Discussion - construction workplaces

- Testing – update

- Contact Tracing – brief overview

- The CDC recommendations for SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 have been developed based on what is currently known and are subject to change as additional information becomes available.
Hierarchy of Controls

- Elimination: Physically remove the hazard
- Substitution: Replace the hazard
- Engineering Controls: Isolate people from the hazard
- Administrative Controls: Change the way people work
- PPE: Protect the worker with Personal Protective Equipment

Most effective to least effective.
“What Construction Workers Need to Know about COVID-19”


- As a construction worker, how can I protect myself and slow the spread?

- Notify your supervisor and stay home if you have symptoms.
“Construction Work”


- **Train construction workers on:**
  - “The signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and an explanation of how the disease is potentially spread, including the fact that infected people can spread the virus even if they do not have symptoms.”

- **Safe Work Practices**
  - “To the extent possible, screen all visitors on all construction sites in advance of their arrival on the job site for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.”
Watch for symptoms

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness.

Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus**. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

This list does not include all possible symptoms. CDC will continue to update this list as we learn more about COVID-19.

Discussion

- Symptom screening

- CDC “General Business Frequently Asked Questions”

- Screening employees is an optional strategy that employers may use.
Screening of workers for COVID-19

- Screening meat and poultry processing workers for COVID-19 symptoms (such as temperature checks) is an optional strategy that employers may use. ... {in consultation with state and local health officials and occupational medicine professionals}

- Options to screen workers for COVID-19 symptoms include:
  - Screen prior to entry into the facility.
  - Provide verbal screening in appropriate language(s)
  - Check temperatures of workers at the start of each shift to identify anyone with a fever of 100.4°F or greater (or reported feelings of feverishness)

- Do not let employees enter the workplace if they have a fever of 100.4°F or greater (or reported feelings of feverishness), or if screening results indicate that the worker is suspected of having COVID-19.
Good health habits can help stop the spread of germs and prevent respiratory illnesses. Use these tips to protect yourself and others:

**Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.**

Clean tools and equipment with disinfectant wipes after each use. For larger tools and equipment, wipe or spray down the surface or tool with a solution of 6 tablespoons (1/3 cup) of bleach per one gallon of water. Allow the solution to sit on the surface for 5 minutes to kill all of the germs.

**Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.**

Practice proper hygiene. Wash hands thoroughly and often using soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

**Cover your cough and sneeze with a tissue then throw the tissue in the trash.**

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Use the bend of your arm if a tissue is not available.

**Ways to reduce the spread of germs**

- Practice physical distancing by avoiding groups and gatherings and maintaining a distance of at least 6 feet from other people whenever possible.

- Stagger pre-shift meetings, new hire orientations, and other meetings conducted in-person. These meetings should include information on proper hygiene, keeping surfaces clean, and procedures on what to do if a worker feels sick.

- If a worker is symptomatic encourage he/she must stay home. Supervisors should keep a record or log of all employees who are sent home or stay home.

- Provide workers with access to soap and water so they can wash their hands frequently.

- Give co-workers a friendly reminder if you notice they forget to wash their hands, cover their mouth, or wipe down their equipment after each use.

Example: “COVID-19 General Checklist for Construction Employers”


- Individual Control Measures & Screening
  - Symptom screenings and/or temperature checks.
  - Restrict non-employee personnel on the job site, conduct screening and encourage the use of face masks or covers.
“Testing for COVID-19”


- Two kinds of tests are available for COVID-19: **viral tests** and **antibody tests**
- A viral test tells you if you have a current infection – two ‘types’
  - PCR
  - Antigen
- An antibody test tells you if you had a previous infection
- An antibody test may not be able to show if you have a current infection
  - May take 1-3 weeks after infection
  - Issue of protection from re-infection
Viral Testing Scenarios

- **Individuals with symptoms of COVID-19**

- **Asymptomatic individuals**
  - With known or potential exposure to SARS-CoV-2 (contact tracing)
  - Without known or suspected SARS-CoV-2 exposure for early identification in special settings
    - Long-term care facilities
    - Correctional and detention facilities
    - Other congregate work or living settings
    - High-density critical infrastructure workplaces where continuity of operations is a high priority

- **Determination of resolution of infection in individuals with COVID-19**
### Contact Tracing – brief overview


- **Key Concepts**
  - Trace and monitor contacts of infected people - notify of exposure
  - **Support the quarantine of contacts** - safe, sustainable and effective quarantine of contacts to prevent additional transmission
  - **Expand staffing resources** – contact tracing in the US will require increased resources and personnel
  - **Use digital tools** - adoption and evaluation of digital tools may expand reach and efficacy of contact tracers.
NIOSH Health Hazard Evaluations

Douglas B. Trout, MD, MHS
dtrout@cdc.gov
When to contact us

- Sick employees, reason unknown
- Mixed exposures
- Poor controls, no OEL
- New process, prevention
- Need program advice
- Evaluate controls
For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.