

Friday, October 23, 2020 – 11:00 am

The CDC has recently released new guidance related to what constitutes close contact in relation to potential COVID-19 transmission risks. The guidance was previously described as someone who spends more than 15 **consecutive** minutes within six feet of an infected individual. CDC is now defining close contact as:

- Someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a **cumulative** total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.

CDC and Virginia Department of Health (VDH) are currently in the process updating the information and guidance on their websites to reflect this change. During this transition phase, we would encourage you to continue to emphasize the importance of maintaining at least 6 feet of social distancing and the use of face coverings. We also suggest you review your internal operational guidance/procedures/practices to identify areas where adjustments may need to be made.

As of this morning, VDH has updated the guidance listed below and is prioritizing school related materials. They are in hopes of having the majority of the information available from their website updated in the next week. Due to the rapidly changing information, we encourage you continue to visit the VDH Covid-19 resources page (www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/#COVID-19-resources) for the most up-to-date information.

- What to do if you were potentially exposed to coronavirus disease (COVID-19)?
- When to End Isolation or Quarantine (translations will be submitted)
- VDH Algorithm for Evaluating a Child with COVID-19 Symptoms or Exposures
 - 1-page and 2-page versions (translations will be submitted)