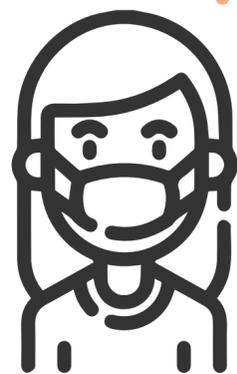


WHAT IS CONTACT TRACING?

Contact tracing is a decades-old disease control method. It is used in public health to help stop the spread of infectious diseases, by identifying, testing and isolating those who are sick.



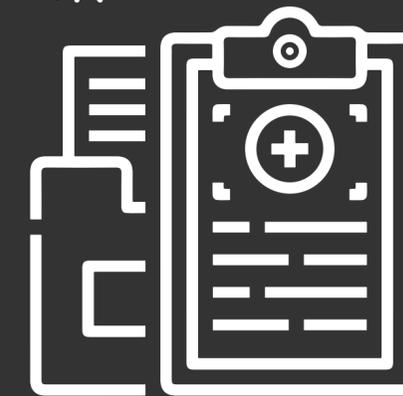
Health Departments are notified when a person living in their jurisdiction tests positive for a contagious disease. Contact tracing begins when a public health employee (contact tracer) asks an infected person who they have had close physical contact with while they were sick.



The contact tracer follows up with anyone identified as a contact of the infected person. The contact tracer will ask questions such as:

The contact tracer will ask questions such as:

- Do you have symptoms?
If yes, what and when did the symptoms start?
- Have you been tested?
If yes, what were the results?
Did you isolate yourself from others?
- If and when you have traveled?
What mode of travel, bus, airplane, etc.?



Contact tracing interrupts and prevents the spread of COVID-19 by identifying other infected people and isolating them until they are well. Contact tracers are also a valuable resource to the people they contact, providing public health recommendations and facilitating services if needed.

COVID-19 is a very contagious respiratory disease that spreads when people have close contact. People can be infected and have no symptoms, but still pass the disease to others. A close contact is anyone who was within 6 feet/2 meters of an infected person for 30 minutes or longer. (CDC, 2020) Contacts can include family members, coworkers, friends, shelter residents or inmates.



CONFIRMED

BEST WAYS TO STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19



Isolate infected people so they don't spread the disease to others.

Identify, test and isolate contacts who have COVID-19 symptoms.

Watch for symptoms, by checking-in with contacts who do not have COVID-19 symptoms.

If you get a call from a contact tracer and want to verify they work for HCPH, you can call 832-927-7575.

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