

Guidance for Jails during the COVID-19 Pandemic

DETENTION STAFF GUIDELINES

Detention staff to follow the below guidance only when it does not jeopardize staff safety.

- When handling of a possible COVID-19 prisoner, responding staff will don a mask (surgical mask or N-95 or higher-level respirator), eye protection (i.e., goggles or disposable face shield that fully covers the front and sides of the face. Personal eyeglasses and contact lenses are NOT considered adequate eye protection), and a single pair of disposable patient examination gloves, and a disposable isolation gown or single-use/disposable coveralls (if gowns are available).
- Have prisoner wear a disposable surgical style mask when staff is in contact with the prisoner.
- The prisoner will be isolated from other prisoners. Prisoners with known or suspected COVID-19 can be housed together if there is no longer a way to keep COVID-19 prisoners individually isolated.
- Staff handling prisoners clothing and personal effects will wear PPE while handling the items until they are placed in plastic bags and the bag is tied closed (wet clothing must be laundered and dried before storing).
- Follow standard operating procedures for the containment and disposal of used PPE. Reusable PPE such as Safety glasses will be decontaminated before reuse.
- Wash hands before and after every contact.
- If housing a prisoner with confirmed (via testing) COVID-19, the prisoner can be moved back to general population 7 days after onset of symptoms and if the prisoner has not had fever for at least 3 days without using fever-reducing medication, and has had symptoms greatly improve; or 7 days after being discharge from the hospital. Prisoners with suspected COVID-19 can be moved to general population after 7 days from onset of symptoms or a confirmed negative test for COVID-19.
- Video conferencing should be used for all Judicial procedures involving suspected COVID-19 prisoners, if a judicial matter cannot be handled via video conferencing the prisoner should be transported separately and must wear a surgical style mask. Limit the procedure to the bare minimum staff to complete the judicial procedure and maintain safety. Staff physically touching the prisoner will wear above indicated PPE, other staff should remain 6 feet from prisoner.
- Spaces housing COVID-19 prisoners must be cleaned following the CDC recommendations located [HERE](#) before occupied by non-COVID-19 prisoners.
- Staff: Call your Primary Care Physician if you have fever or sign/symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (cough and/or shortness of breath) within 14 days of having direct contact with known COVID-19 patient without alternative explanatory diagnosis (e.g.,

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influenza). Sick staff should be sent home, if that is not possible, sick staff need to wear a surgical mask while within 6 feet of other staff and residents. Call TCHD at 720-200-1505 for the latest guidelines for testing First Responders/Medical Staff with suspected COVID-19.

JAIL NURSE/MEDICAL STAFF

Jail nurse/medical staff to follow the below guidance.

- When performing an exam on, or treating a possible COVID-19 prisoner, wear the following PPE: a mask (surgical, N-95, or higher-level respirator), eye protection (i.e., goggles or disposable face shield that fully covers the front and sides of the face. Personal eyeglasses and contact lenses are NOT considered adequate eye protection), and a single pair of disposable patient examination gloves, and a disposable isolation gown or single-use/disposable coveralls (if gown is available).
- Have prisoner wear a disposable surgical style mask when you are within 6 feet of them.
- Confirm that the prisoner has had a positive test for COVID-19 or have fever or sign/symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (cough and/or shortness of breath) if yes, treat prisoner as if they have COVID-19 and isolate as per direction in DETENTION STAFF GUIDELINES.
- Wash hands before and after every contact.
- Call TCHD at 720-200-1505 for the latest guidelines for testing prisoners with suspected COVID-19.
- Prisoners with a positive test can be moved back to general population 7 days after onset of symptoms and if the prisoner has not had fever for at least 3 days without using fever-reducing medication, and has had symptoms greatly improve; or 7 days after being released from the hospital. Prisoners with suspected COVID-19 can be moved to general population 7 days after onset of symptoms or after a confirmed negative test for COVID-19.
- Most subjects who have COVID-19 present with mild symptoms and recover on their own without medical intervention. It is not warranted to seek a medical clearance for prisoners with suspected or confirmed COVID-19. Prisoners with suspected COVID-19 should be more closely monitored to see if their condition is deteriorating. Follow existing jail protocols for seeking medical intervention for prisoners.
- Jail nurse/medical staff: Call your Primary Care Physician if you have fever or sign/symptoms of a lower respiratory illness (cough and/or shortness of breath) within 14 days of having direct contact with known COVID-19 patient without alternative explanatory diagnosis (e.g., influenza). Sick staff should be sent home, if that is not possible, sick staff need to wear a surgical mask while within 6 feet of other staff and



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residents. Call TCHD at 720-200-1505 for the latest guidelines for testing First Responders/Medical Staff with suspected COVID-19.

Call TCHD at 720-200-1505 if you have further questions about COVID-19 or go to www.tchd.org.

Additional resources can be found here:

- <https://covid19.colorado.gov/covid-19-resources-health-care-providers-and-local-public-health-agencies>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/first-responders.html>