

### Contact Tracing Protocol November 10, 2020

Because of the increasing incidence of COVID-19 in Wyoming, public health representatives at the state and local level are no longer able to call all close contacts of individuals diagnosed with COVID-19, and are experiencing delays in contacting all individuals diagnosed with COVID-19.

In order to ensure that public health representatives can continue to make timely contact with individuals diagnosed with COVID-19 and are able to focus their response on high-risk settings, WDH is introducing a new contact tracing protocol as of November 5, 2020.

1. The priority is to call laboratory-confirmed cases and antigen-positive probable cases. This includes patients with positive molecular (PCR or NAAT) tests and positive antigen tests. Patients with positive antibody tests do not need to be called.
  - a. Cases will be issued isolation orders.
  - b. Cases will be referred to “What to do if you test positive for COVID-19” document and “When to start and end isolation” document
2. Cases will be instructed to notify their own contacts.
  - a. Provide definition of close contact during case interview, collect information about close contacts and enter into RedCap, and ask case to call their contacts and refer them to the “What to do if you are exposed to COVID-19” document and “When to start and end quarantine” document
  - b. For household contacts, public health representatives will issue the [Quarantine Instruction](#) document when they send the isolation letter to the case. The contacts are asked if they require a letter or not and a letter is provided if requested.**
  - c. For contacts outside of the household, as resources allow, public health representatives can fill out a [Quarantine Instruction](#) Document for each contact, and email those to the case along with the isolation orders, and ask the case to send those to their close contacts.**
  - d. If contacts within a high risk setting are identified (nursing home, DOC, jails, psychiatric facilities, homeless shelters, K-12 schools, college/university housing) are identified, public health representatives will contact the facility to assist with the investigation and quarantine and infection control recommendations. A [School Quarantine Instruction](#) document is available if needed for student contacts identified through school investigations. This can be issued by school nurses.
  - e. If resources allow, counties can continue to call and interview close contacts according to the [Contact Priorities](#). Counties can issue the [Quarantine Instruction](#) document to close contacts.
  - f. If close contacts are not abiding by quarantine instructions (for example, attending school while under quarantine), quarantine orders can still be issued.
3. Contacts who need documentation for work or school will be instructed through the information sheets on our website to email [wdh.covid19@wyo.gov](mailto:wdh.covid19@wyo.gov). These emails will be forwarded to counties that are conducting their own contact tracing. [Quarantine](#)

[Instruction](#) documents can be issued to these contacts. Medical provider notes will also suffice for this purpose.

**If someone emails [wdh.covid19@wyo.gov](mailto:wdh.covid19@wyo.gov) for a work letter, they need to provide the following information in the email or their request may not be processed:**

- **Name and contact information**
- **Name of the person who tested positive who they were in close contact with**
- **The county they live in**