

COVID 19 MANAGEMENT PROTOCOL

The following updates to the COVID-19 Management Protocol for UAMS Students and Employees are based on the CDC recommendations and are due to the following:

Quarantine Away From – UAMS personnel must use a bedroom and bathroom not used by the COVID-19 positive individual. Additionally, the UAMS personnel must not share common household space with the COVID-19 positive individual – kitchen, living room, etc. Each person must take meals separately in their own room/space.

COVID-19 exposure – contact (a distance less than 6 feet) with a COVID-19 positive individual for a prolonged period without Personal Protective Equipment (at a minimum: mask and approved eye protection).

Prolonged Period – a cumulative time period of 15 minutes or more during a 24-hour period.

UAMS Healthcare Provider (HCP) – a UAMS employee who provides direct or indirect care or services to UAMS patients. This definition may include Environmental Services, Supply Chain, UAMS Police, Nutritional Services, etc.

Red Flag Symptoms – vomiting, diarrhea, and fever.

Moderate and severe immunocompromising conditions and treatments include but are not limited to:

- Active treatment for solid tumor and hematologic malignancies
- Receipt of solid-organ transplant and taking immunosuppressive therapy
- Receipt of CAR-T-cell therapy or hematopoietic cell transplant (HCT) (within 2 years of transplantation or taking immunosuppression therapy)
- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (e.g., DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection (people with HIV and CD4 cell counts $<200/\text{mm}^3$, history of an AIDS-defining illness without immune reconstitution, or clinical manifestations of symptomatic HIV)
- Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids (i.e., ≥ 20 mg prednisone or equivalent per day when administered for ≥ 2 weeks), alkylating agents, antimetabolites, transplant-related immunosuppressive drugs, cancer chemotherapeutic agents classified as severely immunosuppressive, tumor necrosis factor (TNF) blockers, and other biologic agents that are immunosuppressive or immunomodulatory.

TESTING – If possible, UAMS Students and Employees are strongly encouraged to use an at home antigen test. If positive, the individual will provide a photograph of the positive test with their name badge. If the test is negative:

Mask while on campus, daily surveys through day 5, if symptoms worsen retest with Antigen home test.

COVID-19 Management Protocol for UAMS Students and Employees

A. International Travel

UAMS students and employees returning from international travel, will no longer need to report their travel or be monitored in the covid database regardless of vaccination status or location of travel, as long as they remain asymptomatic.

B. Out-of-State Travel

COVID-19 testing IS NOT required after out-of-state travel.

Work Restrictions for UAMS Students and Employees with COVID-19 Exposures

C. Regardless of vaccination status:

1. A UAMS student or employee with a confirmed COVID-19 exposure are not excluded from work, but will be monitored for symptoms via the daily symptom survey and will be conditional in the SEHS system for 10 days from last exposure and DO NOT need to test if they
 - a. remain asymptomatic after the exposure **and**
 - b. do not live in the same household as the COVID-19 positive individual they were exposed to.

or

 - c. live in the same household but can '**Quarantine Away From**' the COVID-19 positive individual while they are infectious (generally 5 days from symptom onset).
 - d. Antigen home test is required at the onset of symptoms.
2. All UAMS Employees and Students with a confirmed Covid-19 exposure **ARE** required to quarantine away from the positive individual. If the person cannot '**Quarantine Away From**' the COVID-19 positive individual, their 10-day quarantine will begin at the onset of symptoms of their exposure source.
 - a. Students or employees
 - i. are not cleared in the SEHS system until their home test on Quarantine Day 5 and 10 is Negative.
 - ii. will complete the symptom survey daily.
 - b. Antigen home test is required.
 - i. At the onset of any symptoms
 - ii. Student or Employee Quarantine Day 5 and 10
 - c. If negative, return to campus/work on Student or Employee Quarantine Day 11
 - d. Personnel will complete the daily symptom survey and be conditional in the SEHS until Day 15.
3. A Student Employee Health Services (SEHS) representative will manage and monitor employees.

D. Work Restrictions for all UAMS Students and Employees with COVID-19 Infection

1. All employees will quarantine for a minimum of 5 days from the date of the positive test or onset of symptoms, whichever occurs first, and may return to work on Day 6 if asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic with improving symptoms (no red flag symptoms).
2. The CDC recommends that people who test positive may leave quarantine if they can continue to mask for 5 days to minimize the risk of infecting others.
3. A student or employee who tests positive should not care for immunosuppressed patients ie: low CD4, ANC <1000 UNTIL AFTER day 10 of symptom onset or positive test, which ever came first
4. The Student or Employee will be required to complete the daily symptom survey and be conditional in the SEHS system for 10 days.

E. Students or Employees reporting symptoms on Daily Screening Survey

If mildly symptomatic with no red flag symptoms and symptoms persist over 24 hrs.:

- a. Test with an Antigen Home Test, if negative will monitor in the database through day 5, if symptoms worsen during this period, retest with Antigen Home test.
- b. Status in SEHS system as Conditional with Survey:
 - i. If negative then, Conditional with Survey through Day 5.
 - ii. If positive, quarantine as above.

F. Student and Employee Requirements

Students and Employees will:

1. Complete the SEHS symptom survey if symptomatic and if they have any known exposures.
2. Leave work immediately if their test result is positive or they develop **red flag** symptoms.
3. Adhere to all UAMS policies for Personal Protective Equipment Use, and Hand Hygiene at all times.
4. Masks must be well-fitting and worn correctly.
5. Take breaks and meals in isolation and not with other staff members while conditional with survey.

Failure to meet any of the above requirements may result in possible disciplinary action due to non-compliance.

Updated 07/31/2023

