

# Workplace Screening/Health & Safety Management in a Covid-19 environment

Many critical food and pharmaceutical manufacturing and construction sites are still operational during these challenging times and employers along with the PSCS/Principal Contractor have a responsibility to ensure these facilities take every possible measure to ensure the safety of the people on site and the general public while still delivering essential services.

The following can be used as a general guide to assist in developing a suitable plan.

## Restrict & Screen Visitors

- / Place a restriction on visitors on site
- / Implement a screening system if a visitor must gain access to site.

## Foreign Travel

- / Those who have travelled abroad recently should stay in home isolation for at least 14 days even if they do not have any symptoms of Coronavirus.

## Higher Risk Groups

- / Workers identified as being within the higher risk groups should move towards self-isolation.

## Staggering Shifts & Split Shifts

- / Consider splitting shifts, rotating who will come to the site or office and who will work remotely.
- / Have meetings via Google Hangout, MS Teams etc.

## Travel separately to work

- / Encourage staff to travel separately to work to help prevent transmission of Coronavirus
- / When fuelling your vehicle at the filling station, use gloves to avoid contact with petrol/diesel pump.

## Stagger Start Times & Breaks

- / Start some staff at 7am, some at 8am, some at 9am to prevent people congregating and congestion at entrance points.
- / Consideration should be given to shift work to reduce the numbers on site at any one time
- / Consider staggering lunch breaks over two hours and moved some of the canteen tables outside so employees could sit a safe distance apart

## Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

- / Clean and disinfect surfaces in the canteen, in the office area, in the toilets and the work area and frequently touches surfaces including tables, desks, door handles, switches, IT equipment and telephones including mobile phone screen. This will help kill any virus.

## / Wash your hands regularly

## / Do not shake hands or make close contact



## Social (Physical) Distancing is vital to slow the spread of Coronavirus

- / Keep a distance of 2 metres between you and other people
- / Minimise interactions with people outside the workplace and home
- / Minimise the number of people you meet every day
- / Avoid crowded places
- / Work from home where possible



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## Take workers' temperature

- / Assign a person to monitor employee temperatures - this person needs to be protected with appropriate PPE and use a non-contact digital thermometer. Temperature should be taken on arrival on site and randomly during the day.
- / Normal body temperature is between about 36°C and 37°C, but this can vary from person to person and from hour to hour. Most centres define fever as body temperature higher than 38°C. Temperatures between 37.5°C and 38.5°C may indicate a low-grade fever) and self-isolation is recommended.

/ Inform your GP by phone. Do not attend a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital.

/ Anyone in close contact with a person presenting with a high temperature for more than 15 minutes, or within 2 metres of a person showing symptoms should be tested and self-isolate for 14 days.

## Communicate

- / Communicate with workers via induction training, toolbox talks and daily white board meetings regarding the Coronavirus and measures being put in place to protect the workforce.
- / Consequently, with any communication methods, ensure physical distancing rules are maintained and group gatherings avoided.
- / Place posters in the workplace that promote good hand-washing practices, cough-and-sneeze etiquette, and staying at home when feeling unwell.

## Communicate the measures to prevent transmission of the virus

- / Stop shaking hands when greeting other people
- / Distance yourself at least 2 metres away from other people, especially those who might be unwell
- / Wash your hands well and often to prevent contamination  
If running water is not available, provide hand sanitizers
- / Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing and sneezing and discard the used tissue
- / Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands
- / Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces