Did you receive news that your friend, family member or patient tested positive for SARS-CoV-2? Have you been in close and prolonged contact (within 6 feet for greater than 10 mins) to this positive person in the two days prior to their symptom onset or their positive test date (if they had no symptoms)? If so, please follow the exposure guidance below.

**Fully vaccinated individuals**

Per the CDC, individuals who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 do not need to quarantine or test if they meet the following criteria:

- They’re fully vaccinated. People are considered fully vaccinated for COVID-19 ≥2 weeks after they have received the second dose in a 2-dose series (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna), ≥2 weeks after they have received a single-dose vaccine (Johnson and Johnson (J&J)/Janssen ) or ≥2 weeks after they received their final dose of a WHO approved COVID-19 vaccine.
- They don’t have symptoms of COVID-19 after the exposure.

If you have met the above criteria and are not showing any symptoms of COVID-19, you are allowed to enter or remain at the College. You are not required to quarantine or obtain a COVID-19 test.

  - At this time the post-exposure testing for asymptomatic fully vaccinated individuals is not a requirement from the NYSDOH. It is a recommendation to test (PCR preferred) day 5-7 post exposure.
    - If at any time, a fully vaccinated individual experiences symptoms whether they were exposed or not, they should test immediately.
- You should continue to self-monitor daily for symptoms of COVID-19 and follow all COVID-19 safety protocols in place at the college.
  - Stay home if you are experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms and obtain a test.
    - If you test positive you must email COVID Nurse Coordinator: Cris Gomez CGomez2@sunyopt.edu with a copy of your test results and your best contact number. You must stay home and isolate, guidance will be provided as soon as possible.
Unvaccinated or not fully vaccinated individuals

If you are unvaccinated due to a medical exemption or it has not been at least 2 weeks since your final dose of the vaccine you should:

- Contact COVID Nurse Coordinator: Cris Gomez CGomez2@sunyopt.edu with your best contact number. The nurse will follow up with you as soon as possible.

- If you have met the criteria of a close and prolonged exposure to a positive case, you will be instructed to quarantine and not come to the college until cleared by the COVID coordinator.
  - Notify your supervisor or IOR that you have been instructed to quarantine.
  - Employees with positions that can work remote will be expected to do so.
- Continue to monitor for symptoms, including temperature checks twice a day (every 12 hours). Fever of above 100 degrees Fahrenheit should be reported. Temperature checks should be done until day 14 post exposure.
- Presume you are positive to protect those who you live with.
  - Take safety precautions at home (isolation - sleeping in separate bedroom, using a separate bathroom if possible, mask wearing, frequent handwashing, disinfection of surfaces, etc.)
- Obtain a RAPID antigen COVID-19 test on day 5 post exposure.
  - For example, if your last contact with the positive case was on a Sunday, you will obtain a test on Friday. Testing too early after exposure can result in a false negative.
- If you become symptomatic before day 5 post exposure, you are to test immediately and inform the COVID coordinator.
- Forward your test result to the COVID coordinator as soon as you receive them.
  - The COVID coordinator will follow up as soon as possible.
- If you are negative and remain asymptomatic, you will be cleared immediately to return to the college and are to continue to follow all COVID-19 safety protocols in place.
- If you test positive, you must isolate, remain home and not come to the college. Guidance will be provided as soon as possible by the COVID Coordinator.

SUNY College of Optometry employees will be asked to obtain a letter/email from the NYSDOH 1-888-364-3065 (or county DOH) identifying them as a close contact/exposure of a confirmed positive case. It may take a few days to obtain the letter, as positive cases are not always immediately known to NYSDOH until the lab informs them. Once the letter is obtained
it should be sent to both the COVID coordinator and Guerda Fils- Asst. VP Human Resources  
GFils@sunyopt.edu. Please do not send the positive person’s test results or any records containing PHI (personal health information) The COVID coordinator and the Assistant VP of Human Resources are to view only the exposed SUNY employee’s COVID test results.

**Please note:** Exposed individuals to confirmed positive cases within SUNY College of Optometry will be notified by the COVID coordinator, if they have met the criteria of a prolonged and close contact. SUNY community contact tracing will be done by the COVID coordinator as soon as possible when there is a confirmed positive case at the college. This is done to ensure the safety of our community and determine if any of the exposed community members require quarantine and testing. The COVID coordinator is well versed in the updated CDC and NYSDOH guidelines regarding exposures. Several factors are used in contact tracing in similar healthcare academic institutes, such as level of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) among parties and COVID-19 vaccination status. Those identified by the COVID coordinator to have met the criteria of a close and prolonged exposure at the college will be notified as soon as possible and given guidance on the next steps.

**Healthcare personnel exposed to a positive patient**

For UEC providers, residents and students who examined a patient in the clinic, who calls to inform them that they tested positive should first determine:

- Did the exposure occur in the two days prior to the patient’s symptom onset or their positive test date (if they had no symptoms)?
  - If no, then this is not considered an exposure - it is outside the window of transmission.
  - If yes, please follow the exposure guidance below depending on your vaccination status and level of PPE worn during exposure.

**Fully vaccinated individuals including healthcare providers**

- As per the CDC, there is no quarantine or testing required as long as you remain asymptomatic.
- You are able to remain at the college/clinic and are to continue to follow all COVID-19 safety protocols, face masks, social distancing, handwashing etc.
Unvaccinated or not fully vaccinated healthcare providers

- Based on the guidelines from similar academic healthcare institutes, when the healthcare provider has the appropriate level of PPE (ASTM level 2, 3 or N95 mask) and the patient was asymptomatic (not coughing, sneezing) while wearing a regular mask, there is no requirement of quarantine or testing for the healthcare provider.

- Healthcare providers should continue to monitor daily for symptoms of COVID-19 and check their temperatures every 12 hours for 14 days post exposure to positive case.

- All COVID-19 safety protocols, face masks, social distancing, handwashing etc., should be followed. Additional face shield is recommended when seeing patients in the clinic until day 14 post exposure.

- If at any time, the healthcare provider develops any symptoms of COVID-19 they are to stay home and get tested as soon as possible and notify the COVID Nurse coordinator.

If you have any questions or concerns about a recent exposure please email the COVID Nurse Coordinator: Cris Gomez CGomez2@sunyopt.edu or call 212-938-5882