

## **FAQs: Employees with Prior COVID-19 Infection Within the Last 90 days**

### **1. I had a recent COVID exposure, but no COVID symptoms. Do I need to test or quarantine?**

No. Employees who have tested positive in the past 90 days and are asymptomatic (have no symptoms) may continue to work and are not required to test.

### **2. I've been testing routinely with a home test since my positive test a few weeks ago. I haven't had any symptoms and sometimes I am positive and sometimes I am negative. Do I need to quarantine again if I test positive?**

If you do not have any new COVID symptoms and have not taken Paxlovid for a recent COVID infection, you do not need to test again within 4 weeks of your initial infection. Your test may not be sensitive enough to detect active viral matter from inactive viral particles.

### **3. Can I get a PCR test if I tested positive in the last 90 days?**

No. PCR tests are very sensitive tests, able to detect any residual viral fragments from a prior COVID virus for up to 90 days.

### **4. I have new COVID symptoms and was COVID-positive within the past 30 days. I did not receive Paxlovid. What should I do?**

You do not need to test. Given the short time period since your recent infection, you may have symptoms related to your initial infection. If you have a fever, diarrhea, or vomiting, please follow HEIC policy and do not report to work. Call out following your departmental call-out policy. Please seek further evaluation from your healthcare provider (MD, DO, NP, or PA) as needed.

### **5. I have new COVID symptoms and was COVID-positive within the past 30 days, and received Paxlovid treatment. What should I do?**

If you have received Paxlovid (any dose or duration), got better, and then developed symptoms again within 20 days of your initial positive test, please call the JHCCC at 443-287-8500, option 1, between 7am and 7pm. We will ask you further questions to determine your testing needs and work restrictions.

### **6. I have new COVID symptoms and tested COVID positive between 31- 90 days ago. What should I do now?**

Please call the JHCCC at 443-287-8500, option 1, between 7am and 7pm for further assessment.

### **7. I have new symptoms and am concerned I may have COVID again. I tested negative with the Hopkins Lumira antigen test and with an at home test, but I have heard that a PCR test is the most accurate test. Why won't the JHCCC order one for me?**

PCR tests are very sensitive, and can detect viral fragments from a previous COVID infection for up to 90 days. To detect an acute infection within 31-90 days of prior infection, the Lumira antigen test has been shown to be the preferred method to identify a current COVID infection. The Lumira test is highly sensitive and specific to detect an acute COVID infection.

***\*\*If you develop difficulty breathing at rest, chest pain, confusion, blue lips, or severe headache with fever at any time, please call 911 or go to the Emergency Department immediately. \*\****