COVID-19 Update

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Medical Director NEBGH

Monday June 1st
COVID-19 Employer Information for Office Buildings
CDC May 27, 2020

CDC Steps to Reopening

1. Create a COVID-19 workplace health and safety plan

2. Before resuming business operations, check the building to see if it’s ready for occupancy
   - Ensure that ventilation systems operate properly
   - Start up as a ‘new’ system
   - Increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible
   - Check risks from stagnant water
   - Check for mold growth, rodents etc.
3. Identify where and how workers might be exposed to COVID-19 at work

- Conduct a thorough hazard assessment
- Identify work and common areas where employees could have close contact (within 6 feet) with others
- Develop communication plans with all employees, contractors and visitors
Implement Controls

GETTING BACK TO WORK
A LAYERED DEFENSE APPROACH

HAZARD ELIMINATION
- Stay home to prevent contact with fellow workers

PERSONNEL SUBSTITUTION
- Designate core staff required for business operation

ENGINEERING CONTROLS
- Optimize building ventilation, filtration, and purification

ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROLS
- De-densify through A-B schedules and interaction protocols

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT
- Reduce risk of infection while in shared spaces

Recommendations and Considerations

- Install **transparent shields** or other physical barriers where possible to separate employees and visitors where social distancing is not an option.
- Replace high-touch communal items, such as *coffee pots, water coolers, and bulk snacks*, with alternatives.
- Wearing of cloth face coverings or **masks**.
- Limit use and **occupancy of elevators** to maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet.
Recommendations and Considerations

Ventilation system:

- Increase the percentage of outdoor air potentially as high as 100%
- Increase total airflow supply to occupied spaces, if possible.
- Disable demand-control ventilation (DCV) controls
- Consider using natural ventilation
- Improve central air filtration: MERV 13 or 14
- Running the building ventilation system even during unoccupied times
- Generate clean-to-less-clean air movement
- Consider using portable high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) fan/filtration systems to help enhance air cleaning
- Ensure exhaust fans in restrooms are operating at full capacity
- Consider using ultraviolet germicidal irradiation (UVGI)
Recommendations and Considerations

- For employees who commute to work using public transportation or ride sharing, consider offering the following support:
  - Offer employees incentives to use forms of transportation that minimize close contact with others, such as offering reimbursement for parking for commuting to work alone or single-occupancy rides.
  - Allow employees to shift their hours so they can commute during less busy times.
  - Ask employees to wash their hands as soon as possible after their trip.
Public Health Ideas

- Seksbuddy
- Double Bubble
REDUCING RISK OF CORONAVIRUS TRANSMISSION

HARM REDUCTION TIPS:
- Masks
- Distance
- Clean hands
- Fewer people
- Ventilation
- Stay home if sick
- Keep interactions brief
- Avoid sharing food, drinks, toys, or sports equipment

RISK OF TRANSMISSION

At home alone or with household members
Walk/run/bike outdoors with other people
Group gathering outdoors
Group gathering indoors
Masks reduce airborne transmission.

Infectious aerosol particles can be released during breathing and speaking by asymptomatic infected individuals. No masking maximizes exposure, whereas universal masking results in the least exposure.

Kimberly A. Prather et al. Science 2020;science.abc6197
Daily confirmed COVID-19 cases

The number of confirmed cases is lower than the number of total cases. The main reason for this is limited testing.

Source: European CDC – Situation Update Worldwide – Last updated 31st May, 10:45 (London time)  
OurWorldInData.org/coronavirus • CC BY
Daily reported cases in the U.S.

- Daily new cases
- 7-day U.S. average
- Excluding New York and New Jersey

Graph showing the trend of daily reported cases from March 1 to May 30.
# NYS Dashboard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>14-Day Decline in net Hospitalizations OR Under 15 new Hospitalizations (3-day avg)</th>
<th>14-Day Decline in Hospital Deaths OR Fewer than 5 deaths (3-day avg)</th>
<th>New Hospitalizations (Under 2 per 100K residents - 3 day rolling avg)</th>
<th>Share of total beds available (Threshold of 30%)</th>
<th>Share of ICU beds available (Threshold of 30%)</th>
<th>30 per 1k residents tested monthly (7-day avg of new tests per day)</th>
<th>Contact tracers 30 per 100K residents or based on infection rate</th>
<th>Metrics Met</th>
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All the regions have satisfied the Metric #1 - Decline in Total Hospitalizations and Metric #2 - Decline in Deaths.
Questions