



Joint Memorandum: UPDATE: Quarantine options for fully vaccinated personnel

DATE: 2/19/2021

TO: All Florida Fire/Rescue Providers and Local IAFF Representatives

FROM: Florida Fire Chiefs Association and Florida Professional Firefighters

To date, CDC has not yet modified their Exposure Guidance for Healthcare Providers, however the most recent CDC Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines and CDC's Strategies to Mitigate Healthcare Personnel Staffing Shortages both say that the following criteria could be applied when considering work restrictions for fully vaccinated healthcare personnel with higher-risk exposures, as a strategy to alleviate staffing shortages:

Vaccinated persons with an exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 are not required to quarantine if they meet all of the following criteria:

- Are fully vaccinated (greater than 2 weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series, or greater than 2 weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine)
- Are within 3 months following receipt of the last dose in the series
- Have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure

Although the risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission from vaccinated persons to others is still uncertain, vaccination has been demonstrated to prevent symptomatic COVID-19; symptomatic and pre-symptomatic transmission is thought to have a greater role in transmission than purely asymptomatic transmission. Additionally, individual and societal benefits of avoiding unnecessary quarantine may outweigh the potential but unknown risk of transmission, and facilitate the direction of public health resources to persons at highest risk for transmitting SARS-CoV-2 to others. This recommendation to waive quarantine for people with vaccine-derived immunity aligns with quarantine recommendations for those with natural immunity, which eases implementation.

If an agency elects to allow asymptomatic fully vaccinated exposed personnel to continue to work on-site (i.e., not be restricted from work) throughout their 14-day post-exposure period they should continue to monitor the employee for symptoms in accordance with CDC Guidelines.

Departments are encouraged to consult with their Medical Director and Department Physician along with the more comprehensive CDC Guidelines prior to implementation of these strategies.

We will continue to update our FFCA/FPF Joint Guidance for the Florida Fire Service documents as CDC guidelines evolve.

HELP FLORIDA'S FIRE SERVICE LEAD THE WAY! GET VACCINATED