



Coronavirus and Cal/OSHA's Aerosol Transmissible Diseases Standard

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COVID-19 in California

California: 472 confirmed cases and 11 deaths

- Approximately 11,750 people are self-monitoring

Los Angeles County: 94 confirmed cases and 1 death

(Updated March 17, 2020)

LOCAL HEALTH JURISDICTIONS REPORTING COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION OF NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)





Cal/OSHA's ATD Standard





STOP DROPLET PRECAUTIONS STOP
 (In addition to Standard Precautions)

Families and Visitors follow instructions from information sheet.
 (If you have questions, go to Nurse Station)

Everyone Must:

-  Clean hands when entering and leaving room
-  Wear mask

Doctors and Staff Must:




-  If contact with secretions likely, use gown, glove, and eye cover
- 

Washington State Hospital Association | Green Pointers 332 C Last revised 8/2009

Aerosol Transmissible Diseases = Airborne or Droplet Precautions

AIRBORNE ISOLATION

Visitors ~ See Nurse before entering

Clean Hands ~ N-95 or PAPR ~ Negative Pressure / Door Closed

PAPR High-Hazard Medical Procedures (See other side) | UCSF Medical Center | UCSF Benioff Children's Hospitals

Work Settings where ATD Standard Applies

- ▶ **Healthcare** – hospitals, clinics, outpatient services, skilled nursing facilities, home healthcare, medical transport, emergency medical services, etc.
- ▶ Specific high risk environments:
 - ▶ **Correctional facilities** (jails, prisons)
 - ▶ **Homeless shelters**
 - ▶ **Drug treatment programs**
- ▶ Some **law enforcement** personnel
- ▶ Some **public health operations**, e.g. contact tracing, influenza clinics during outbreaks
- ▶ **Laboratories**



How does the ATD Standard relate to
COVID-19?

Novel Pathogens => Treat as Airborne

Airborne infectious disease (AirID) includes “disease process caused by a **novel or unknown pathogen for which there is no evidence to rule out...the possibility that the pathogen is transmissible through dissemination of airborne droplet nuclei, small particle aerosols, or dust particles containing the novel or unknown pathogen.**”



Surge Procedures

“The [surge] plan shall include work practices, decontamination facilities, and appropriate personal protective equipment and respiratory protection for such events. **The procedures shall include how respiratory and personal protective equipment will be stockpiled, accessed or procured,** and how the facility or operation will interact with the local and regional emergency plan.”



Exposure Control Measures for AirID

“**AirID cases or suspected cases shall be ... placed in an All [airborne infection isolation] room** or area or transferred to a facility with All rooms or areas.”

“Where it is not feasible to provide All rooms or areas..., the employer shall provide other effective control measures to reduce the risk of transmission to employees, **which shall include the use of respiratory protection...**”

Exposure Control Measures for AirID

“The employer shall provide a powered air purifying respirator (PAPR) with a High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filter(s), or a respirator providing equivalent or greater protection, to employees who perform high hazard procedures on AirID cases or suspected cases.”

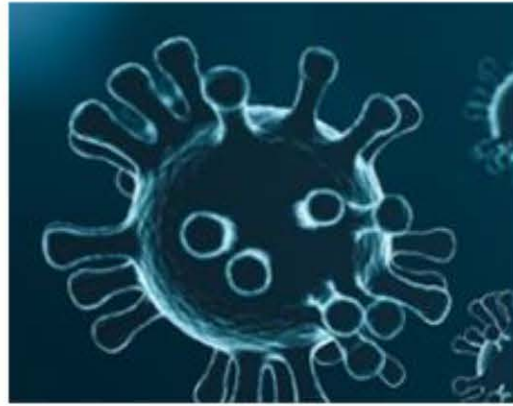


California Code of Regulations, Title 8, § 5199

The ATD Standard in a Time of Pandemic

The background of the slide is white with abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of blue (light blue, medium blue, and dark blue) on the right side, creating a modern, professional look.

Cal/OSHA Guidance on Requirements to Protect Workers from Coronavirus



Workplace safety and health regulations in California require employers to protect workers exposed to airborne infectious diseases such as the coronavirus. Cal/OSHA has posted guidance to help employers comply with these safety requirements and to provide workers information on how to protect themselves.

Cal/OSHA's Aerosol Transmissible Diseases (ATD) standard ([section 5199](#)) requires protection for employees working at health care facilities, and other services and operations, including:

- Hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, clinics, medical offices, outpatient medical facilities, home health care, long-term health care facilities, hospices, medical outreach services, medical transport and emergency medical services
- Certain laboratories, public health services and police services that are reasonably anticipated to expose employees to an aerosol transmissible disease.
- Correctional facilities, homeless shelters, and drug treatment programs
- Any other locations when Cal/OSHA informs employers in writing that they must comply with the ATD Standard

To protect workers and prevent exposure to the virus, employers must develop and maintain the required programs and plans for their facility or operation. Cal/OSHA recommends the interim guidance, educational materials and model programs and plans below be reviewed with an employer's existing procedures to ensure that workers are protected.

Personal Protective Equipment

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Personal protective equipment (PPE) for workers providing care to suspected and confirmed COVID-19 cases includes gloves, gowns or coveralls, eye protection and respiratory protection. Respirators must be labeled as certified by NIOSH and must have filters that remove at least 95 percent of airborne particles (N95) or more.

WARNING: Surgical and other non-respirator face masks do not protect persons from airborne infectious disease and cannot be relied upon for novel pathogens. They do not prevent inhalation of virus particles because they do not seal to the person's face and are not tested to the filtration efficiencies of respirators. Surgical and face masks must not be used instead of an approved respirator such as an N95 mask.



LAC DPH Health Advisory:
Coronavirus Disease 2019 Testing and
Revised Infection Prevention Guidance

March 11, 2020



- LACDPH follows CDC, WHO guidance and recommends the following for **routine care** of suspect or confirmed COVID-19:
 - Standard precautions
 - Droplet precautions
 - Contact precautions
 - Eye protection
- Regular room w door closed

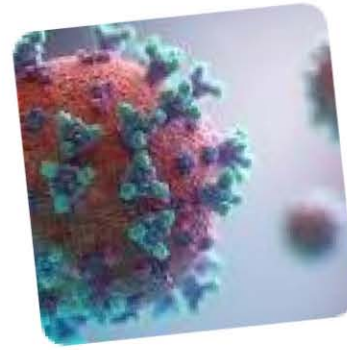
The screenshot shows the CDC website page for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in healthcare settings. The main heading is "Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Healthcare Settings". Below this, there is a section titled "Infection prevention and control during health care when novel coronavirus (nCoV) infection is suspected" with "Interim guidance" dated "25 January 2020". The World Health Organization logo is visible in the bottom right corner of the screenshot.

SF SFist

Two UCSF Healthcare Workers Test Positive for COVID-19

University of California at San Francisco (UCSF) officials confirmed that two healthcare employees have tested positive for the coronavirus, ...

1 day ago



LA Los Angeles Times

California healthcare workers, first responders test positive for coronavirus

Two healthcare workers at UC San Diego Health have confirmed COVID-19 infections and are now on home quarantine, officials said Saturday ...

6 hours ago



Sectors Not Covered by ATD Standard

- ▶ Airport screening and passenger services
- ▶ Airplane cabin cleaners
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Utilities providing in-home services
- ▶ High-volume retail
- ▶ Industrial laundry facilities
- ▶ Many others....

There was “...debate during SARS over whether SARS was transmitted by large droplets or through airborne particles. The point is not who was right and who was wrong in this debate. When it comes to worker safety...we should not be driven by the scientific dogma of yesterday or even the scientific dogma of today. **We should be driven by the precautionary principle that reasonable steps to reduce risk should not await scientific certainty.**”

SARS Commission Final Report, Volume 3, p. 1157 (2006)



Thank you

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