



## Strategies to Control the Spread of COVID at Seafood Processing Plants: Employee Health

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### Employee Health: At Work or Returning to Work after Exposure

To ensure continuity of operations of essential functions, CDC advises that critical infrastructure workers (**essential workers**) may be permitted to continue work following potential exposure to COVID-19, provided they remain asymptomatic, have not had a positive test result for COVID-19, and additional precautions are implemented to protect them and the community.

### Steps for employers

**Screen all employees for fever before entering to work:** Check temperatures of workers and assess symptoms at the start of each shift to identify anyone with a fever of 100.4°F or greater. Do not let employees enter the workplace if they have a fever of 100.4°F or greater.

**Regular Monitoring:** As long as the employee doesn't have a temperature or symptoms, they should self-monitor under the supervision of their employer's occupational health program.

**Wear a Mask:** The employee should wear a face mask at all times while in the workplace for 14 days after last exposure.

**Social Distance:** The employee should maintain 6 feet and practice social distancing as work duties permit in the workplace.

**Disinfect and clean work spaces:** Clean and disinfect all shared areas and shared electronic equipment routinely.

Establish and maintain engineering controls and administrative controls.

Develop a contingency plan for situations that may arise as a result of outbreaks.

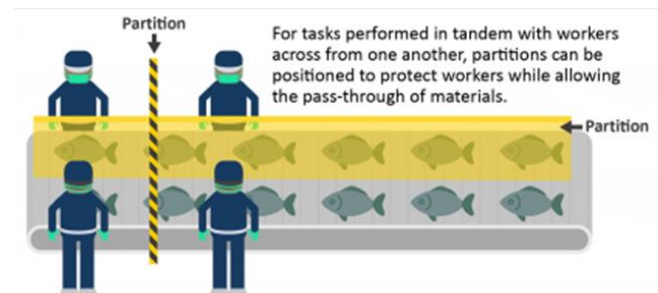


Figure 1. Engineering controls showing alignment and physical barriers to keep workers at social distance (CDC illustration).

### Steps for workers

#### Do

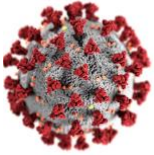
- Take your temperature before work.
- Wear a face mask at all times.
- Practice social distancing in the workplace as work duties permit.
- Follow health and personal hygiene practices

#### Don't

- Stay at work if you become sick.
- Share headsets or objects used near face.

- Congregate in the break room or other crowded places.

## Know about COVID-19



Coronavirus (COVID-19) is an illness caused by a virus that can spread from person to person.

The virus that causes COVID-19 is a new coronavirus that has spread throughout the world.

COVID-19 symptoms can range from mild (or no symptoms) to severe and may include fever, cough, and shortness of breath.

## Know how COVID-19 is spread



- Between people who are in close contact with one another (about 6 feet).
- Through respiratory droplets such as coughs, sneezes or talks
- Droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or inhaled into the lungs.

## [Agricultural Employer Checklist for Creating a COVID-19 Assessment and Control Plan](#)

Employers can use this checklist to create a COVID-19 assessment and control plan for applying specific preparation, prevention, and management measures.

This checklist can be modified to your needs and includes:

### Section 1: Assessment

### Section 2: Control Plan based on the Hierarchy of Controls

- Screening and Monitoring Workers
- Managing Sick Workers
- Addressing Return to Work after Worker Exposure to COVID-19
- Engineering Controls
- Cleaning, Disinfection, and Sanitation
- Administrative Controls
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

### Section 3: Special Considerations for Shared Housing

### Section 4: Special Considerations for Shared Transportation

### Section 5: Special Considerations for Children

## Additional Resources

CDC. 2020. Implementing Safety Practices for Critical Infrastructure Workers Who May Have Had Exposure to a Person with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19. Interim guidance.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/critical-workers/implementing-safety-practices.html>

CDC 2020. Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers Responding to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html>

CDC 2020. Protecting Seafood Processing Workers from COVID-19. Interim Guidance from CDC and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Developed in consultation with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-seafood-processing.html>

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