



Construction Insurance and Risk  
Captive of America, Ltd.

## **COVID-19 Precautions & Directives for Remote Crews**

Victor S. Kelly, Jr. CHST, ASP, CSP

Nontraditional Risk  
Management in Action

## What is COVID-19?

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that are common in people and many different species of animals, including camels, cattle, cats, and bats. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can infect people and then spread between people such as with MERS-CoV, SARS-CoV, and now with this new virus (named SARS-CoV-2). The virus that causes COVID-19 is spreading from person-to-person in China and some limited person-to-person transmission has been reported in countries outside China, including the United States. However, respiratory illnesses like seasonal flu, are currently widespread in many US communities. [1]

## Symptoms of COVID-19

Reported illnesses have ranged from mild symptoms to severe illness and death for confirmed coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases.

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure\*:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

\*This is based on what has been seen previously as the incubation period of MERS-CoV viruses.

Call your healthcare professional if you develop symptoms, and have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you have recently traveled from an area with widespread or ongoing community spread of COVID-19. [1]

## Supervisor Measures

Supervisors measures, at a minimum, should include:

- All supervisors shall review and distribute the symptoms and precautions sheet for the virus (COVID-19) with each employee individually to confirm their understanding
  - These can be from state or federal organization such as CDC, AGC, NSC etc.
    - [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/index.html)
    - [www.agc.org/coronavirus-covid-19](http://www.agc.org/coronavirus-covid-19)
    - [www.nsc.org/work-safety/safety-topics/coronavirus](http://www.nsc.org/work-safety/safety-topics/coronavirus)
- Contract with vendor (toilet supplier or others) for additional hand sanitizer and hand was facility
- Review daily ANY changes to restrictions in the region where they may be working with each employee
- Direct all employees that they need to be vigilante in regard to the regulations and restrictions when they are not at the jobsite also
  - This includes not gathering at restaurants and bars when not working
  - Preparing your lunch to be brought to work to minimize social settings
  - Review the importance of personal hygiene
- Remind employees daily that if they do not feel well, the employee is responsible for immediately reporting the condition to the supervisor. Any employee that reports a potential illness should seek medical attention and keep the employer informed.
- Assign locations for employees to eat and break meeting the social distancing requirements
- Include masks in the his/her tool kit available to employees as requested

The following are internal measures to assist the employees in the management of cleanliness and hygiene.

- Make sure that you pay attention to and minimize touching your face (nose, eyes and mouth)
- Wipe down the cabs of trucks and equipment prior to use by each individual employee
- Carry and use individual water sources instead of community water kegs
- Wash hand frequently throughout the day especially before and after eating and using the toilet
- Clean and sanitize personal vehicle and tools