

7 Strategies for Mitigating the Spread of COVID-19



Strategy 1: Stop the Introduction of the Virus into Your Facility

- Enable as much working from home as possible
- Control access to the facility, only essential staff, and visitors, through one entrance
- Train your associates to recognize symptoms and stay home (Daily Symptom Assessment)
- Send employees home if symptoms develop at work
- For confirmed cases of COVID-19, contact the local health department
- What happens outside of work is important.
- Continually reinforce new culture through communication (training, signage, PSAs)

Strategy 2: Enhanced Basic Hygiene Practices

- Proper handwashing – training, signage, culture
- Make hand sanitizer available in key common areas
- Train associates to avoid touching your face, don't eat food with dirty hands, etc.
- Train associates to cough and sneeze properly: into disposable tissue or elbow
- Disinfect high contact surfaces frequently throughout day and post logs
- Don't forget about transient surfaces, such as raw materials/WIP
- Develop procedures to minimize touches/interactions between steps
- The virus breaks down with time, letting things sit after interaction reduces viral load
- Continually reinforce the culture through communication (training, signage, PSAs)

Strategy 3: Social Distancing

- Avoid putting people in enclosed areas for extended periods
- Reduce staff in meetings, reduce meeting times, utilize virtual meeting tools
- Limit the number of people allowed in common areas (entrances, break rooms, cafeteria)
- Stagger break & shift times to limit interaction between coworkers
- Schedule supplier deliveries for off-times
- Move desks/workbenches at least 6' away, use closed common areas for desks
- Tape off safe distances from desks/workstations

Strategy 4: Engineering Controls and PPE

- Physical Barriers for workstations that can't be moved 6' apart
- Require facial covering usage for employees, with exceptions
 - It is highly recommended to require visitors to also wear facial coverings
 - Use face shields where conditions would discourage mask use
- Increase ventilation where possible

Strategy 5: Manage Employee Morale

- Employees want to feel safe and will buy into changes if it helps them feel safe
- Communication is key to getting compliance with new safety measures
- Encourage use of mental help benefits to manage stress
- Try to be flexible with employees to allow for family care

Strategy 6: Be Ready to Receive and Implement New Guidance

- Find trusted sources and monitor for updated guidance

Strategy 7: Don't Forget the Basics

- With all the new info and practices, old priorities can be forgotten
- Safety incidents and quality issues tend to be up after shutdowns

One Partner. Multiple Service Solutions.

614-287-5000 / www.mep.csc.edu