



Please do the following in your veterinary practice while you are open as an essential business during the shelter-in-place order

Staff monitoring

- Underlying conditions
 - Staff with some underlying health conditions such as diabetes, cardiac disease, chronic pulmonary disease, obesity, hypertension or who are immunocompromised may be at increased risk of adverse outcomes from this disease. Consider this when meeting staffing needs.
- Ensure that staff
 - Take their temperatures daily
 - Self-monitor for symptoms
 - Have individuals use a log form

****If an employee has a fever or symptoms of COVID 19, they should be sent home immediately****

Staff member testing positive for COVID19

If a staff member should test positive for COVID19 they should isolate at home and not return to work for 14 days. Other staff in the clinic should be alerted that a staff member has tested positive for COVID19. MSDH is performing intensive case and contact investigation around each case and will issue isolation and quarantine orders as indicated. The clinic should contact their local health department for recommendations on additional steps. The MSDH 24-hour hotline number is 877-978-6453.

Determine all the days the staff member worked up to 48 hours prior to symptom onset and after. Identify any other staff that had close contact with the positive staff member. High risk contacts to a case include persons who have had more than 10 minutes of contact without PPE within 6 feet of a confirmed case. These staff members should quarantine at home and not work for 14 days. When potential resource constraints exist, consideration may be given to allowing veterinarians and their staff who are asymptomatic high risk contacts to continue to work if they wear a surgical mask during work and monitor their temperature and symptoms twice daily.

Environment

Be diligent about cleaning/disinfecting in the practice. Pay particular attention to high touch surfaces (door knobs, toilet handles, phones, light switches and areas where employees share computers/tables/desks).

Social distancing

This can be very difficult to do within a clinic setting. As much as feasible keep 6ft apart when closer contact is not needed for a procedure.

Basic information

Most common symptoms of COVID19 include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Sore throat
- Loss of sense of smell/taste
- Diarrhea