Hospitality, Food Service, and Retail Considerations and Guidance for SARS-CoV-2 that causes COVID-19

Below is a compilation of considerations and guidance from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and Diversey for Hospitality, Food Service, and Retail businesses and employers as it relates to the COVID-19 outbreak. Full guidance from CDC for businesses and employers can be found at [1]. Interim Recommendations for US community facilities with Suspected/Confirmed COVID-19 can be found at [5].

Current Recommendations

- Emphasize staying home when sick and exclude sick employees.
  - Consider a flexible policy that permit employees to stay home for public health reasons, e.g. sick, care of family member suffering from COVID-19, care of child due to school/childcare closures. Temporary discretions, such as advances on sick leave/paid-time-off, may provide flexibility to both employer and employee.
- Personal hygiene and respiratory etiquette (i.e. cover your cough and sneeze) are key prevention methods. Double hand wash after the restroom.
- Emphasize hand hygiene prior to donning single use gloves; change gloves frequently.
- Face masks are not recommended.
- Advise employees before traveling to check the CDC's Travel Health Notices [2].
- Current, there is no evidence of food or food packaging being associated with transmission of COVID-19. Like other viruses, it is possible COVID-19 can survive on surfaces or object. Continue to follow the 3 key steps of food safety: clean, separate, cook, and chill.
- Employees who are well, but who have a sick family member at home with COVID-19, should notify their supervisor and refer to CDC guidance for How to Conduct a Risk Assessment [3] of their potential exposure.
  - Employers need to inform employees if another employee is confirmed to have COVID-19 infection, but maintain confidentiality as required by law.
- No change to current warewashing practices. Do not attempt to change current practices, e.g. change sanitizer concentration or rinse temperatures.
- Consider implementing social distancing policies.
  - Increase physical space (3 to 6 feet) space between both employees and customers, e.g. drive through, partitions, curb-side pick-up, or delivery.
- Consider improving engineering controls for ventilation, e.g. increase HVAC output to increase air exchange with outside air.
- Perform routine environmental cleaning and disinfection:
  - Disinfection instances include, but are not limited to:
    - Frequently touched surfaces, e.g. credit card reader, countertops, registers, doorknobs, carts. *Frequency: this can depend on usage and customer volume. A general rule is disinfect every 4 hours. But business can increase frequency up to "after every use" or as infrequent as "once per day".*
    - Surfaces where a blood or other bodily fluid may have contaminated a surface. *Frequency: immediately.*
    - Other uncommon surfaces your team deems likely be contaminated through use. *Frequency: ad hoc.*

- - A healthcare officials recommends disinfection.
    - Facilities with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 employees (see below)
- For facilities that have a suspected/positive COVID-19 employee a deep cleaning is necessary. Please follow our deep cleaning guidance which also includes CDC recommendations.
- If food contact surfaces must be disinfected due to known viral contamination or bodily fluid, the procedure that should be used is:
    - Pre-clean to remove gross soil, if needed
    - Wash with degreaser or detergent cleaner
    - Rinse with potable water
    - Apply disinfectant. Note: disinfectant must remain wet for the entire contact time. Check the product as contact times differ per product. It may be necessary to re-apply the disinfectant, especially for longer contact times.
    - Rinse with potable water
    - Apply sanitizer
    - Allow surface to drain and air dry.
- The EPA released a revised list of EPA-registered disinfectants efficacious against SARS-CoV-2 on March 13, 2020. These include 42 new Diversey SKUs. Those products can be found here: https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2
- The EPA still encourage use of products with an emerging viral pathogen claim. However, if those are not available or backordered, other products with a human coronavirus claim can be used in an emerging viral pathogen claim product's absence.
- Please note not all of our products are easily found on EPA's list N. Ask your account manager for Diversey's list of all SKUs available from EPA's List N.

Criteria for Return to Work for Employees Confirmed or Suspected: COVID-19

Employees with COVID-19 who have home-isolated can stop home-isolation once all 3 conditions are met [6]:
- Employee did not get tested for COVID-19:
    1. No fever after 72 hours without the use of fever reduce medicine
    2. Other symptoms of COVID-19 have improved, e.g. cough, shortness of breath
    3. At least 7 days have passed since your symptoms appeared.
- Employee did get tested for COVID-19:
    1. No longer have a fever without the use of fever reduce medicine
    2. Other symptoms have improved, e.g. cough, shortness of breath
    3. Received two negative COVID-19 test in a row spaced ≥24 hours apart.

References:

1. US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fspecific-groups%2Fguidance-business-response.html
2. US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Vaccines. Medicines. Advice. https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel
3. Interim US Guidance for Risk Assessment and Public Health Management of Persons with Potential Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Exposures: Geographic Risk and Contacts of Laboratory-confirmed Cases. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/risk-assessment.html
4. US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/
5. Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html
6. Criteria for Return to Work for Healthcare Personnel with Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19 (Interim Guidance). https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/healthcare-facilities/hcp-return-work.html