COVID 19 – A NOVEL CHALLENGE FOR VENUES

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+25 years in the Health & Safety Profession – 16 years consulting

Trained 100’s of CBP agents at NY/NJ metro airports on Ebola

Consulted on COVID 19 Cleaning/Disinfection Protocols and Emergency Action Plans

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WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT COVID-19?

• Enveloped Virus
  • Lipid coating of RNA

• More Virulent than Influenza
  • Possibly >1% vs. <0.1%
  • 80% of infections are mild or asymptomatic, 15% are severe infection, requiring oxygen and 5% are critical infections, requiring ventilation.

• Viability on Various Surfaces – up to 3 days on plastic
WHAT ARE THE MODES OF TRANSMISSION?

- **Respiratory and Contact Transmission**
  - Up to 25% Asymptomatic but viral shed
  - Viral shed up to 48 hrs. before symptoms

- **Droplet Spread**
  - 6-foot distance
  - Not airborne spread

- **Contact Spread**
  - Limited viability on various surface materials
  - Packages, mail, food, stools, etc. not seen as routes
WHAT IS THE CLEANING & DISINFECTION PROCESS?

- Three classes of potential concern
- Level of cleaning and worker protection based on classification of space
  - Employee access, contractor areas, participant areas, patrons’ area
  - Tracing of individual’s contacts
- Scope of areas and surfaces to be processed
  - Porous vs. non-Porous
- Clean followed by Disinfection
- If >7 days since the person who is sick visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary
WHAT IS THE CLEANING & DISINFECTION PROCESS?

- **Disinfection**
  - EPA-approved disinfectant for coronaviruses following manufacturer's directions of use: List N Products – need to follow manufacturers instructions
  - Alcohol - >70% (Electronics)
  - Bleach - diluted

- Verification of process – Adenosine triphosphate (ATP)?
WHAT DOES DISINFECTION ENTAIL?

- **Class 1 - Proactive**
  - High touch surfaces
  - Safety glasses, N/R/P 95 mask (or higher efficiency), nitrile disposable gloves
- **Class 2 – Person Under Investigation (PUI)**
  - High touch surfaces; areas of occupancy
  - Class 1 plus coverall, booties, 2 sets of nitrile disposable gloves; possibly APR
  - Decontamination of tools
- **Class 3 – Known Infected Person**
  - Class 2
  - Open windows/doors for 24 hours if possible
WHO SHOULD DO THE CLEANING/DISINFECTION?

- **Class 1** – in-house janitorial/cleaning crew
- **Class 2 & 3** – possibly qualified bioremediation contractor
  - Qualified and experienced in bioremediation (not just mold)
  - Example – American Bio Remediation Assoc. member or similar
- **Training**
  - Biohazards, i.e. Bloodborne Pathogens & COVID 19 specific
  - Hazard Communication – cleaning agents, disinfectants
  - Respiratory Protection – required use will require program implementation
  - PPE – eye, face, body, hand
The venue should be maintained throughout the closure

- Humidity Control - <60% RH
- Potable Water System
  - Lead
  - Legionella

WHAT ABOUT REOPENING THE VENUE?
Response team members and responsibilities – follow Incident Command structure

Actions for prevention

Protocols for possible exposure & confirmed exposure scenarios

- Employee
- Contractor
- Visitor
- Patron
WHAT LAWS & REGULATIONS MAY APPLY?

- Follow CDC/WHO guidelines
- OSHA – including employee illness recordability and confidentiality
- Refer to Society for Human Resource Management guidelines
- Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) – sick and family care
- American with Disabilities Act (ADA) coverage – non-discrimination
- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) - privacy laws
Center of Disease Control – website

World Health Organization – website

US EPA – “List N Products with Emerging Viral Pathogens and Human Coronavirus for use against SARS-CoV-2”


NPR News – interview with CDC Dir. Dr. Robert Redfield, Apr. 30, 2020


REFERENCES