

COVID 19 – A NOVEL CHALLENGE FOR VENUES

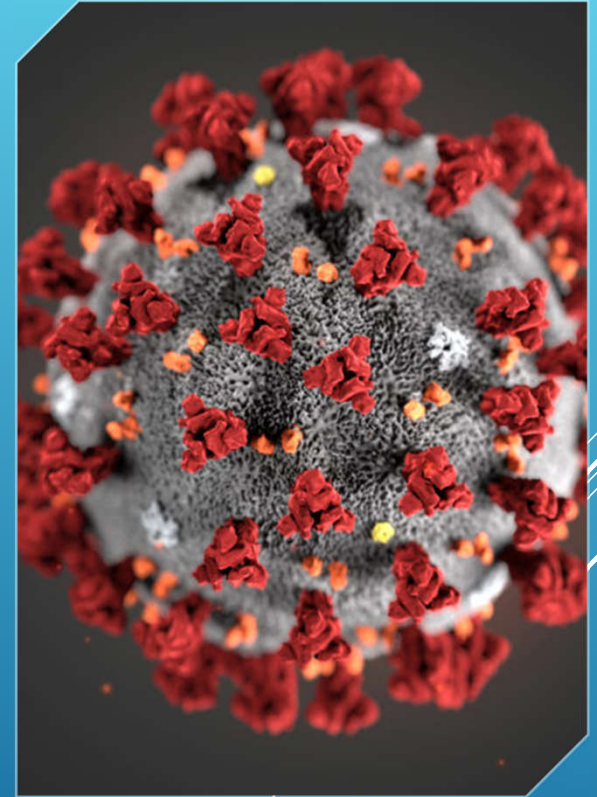
Presented to the International Association
of Venue Managers – April 2020

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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



- ▶ 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 ARE THE MODES OF TRANSMISSION?

- ▶ 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 IS THE CLEANING & DISINFECTION PROCESS?

- ▶ 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

WHAT DOES DISINFECTION ENTAIL?

- ▶ 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

WHO SHOULD DO THE CLEANING/DISINFECTION?

- ▶ 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

EAP – WHAT SHOULD IT INCLUDE?

- ▶ 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

WHAT LAWS & REGULATIONS MAY APPLY?

- ▶ 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”
- ▶ American Bio Recovery Association – “Bio Recovery Site Risk Assessment Guidelines,” Version 1.3
- ▶ NPR News – interview with CDC Dir. Dr. Robert Redfield, Apr. 30, 2020
- ▶ “Aerosol and Surface Stability of SARS-CoV-2 as Compared with SARS-CoV-1,” Coremalen, et al, New England Journal of Medicine, Mar. 17, 2020
- ▶ American Industrial Hygiene Association – “Recovering from COVID-19 Building Closures,” March 31, 2020

REFERENCES