

**To:** [Casey Smith](#)  
**Subject:** Clarification on COVID Exposures  
**Date:** Friday, August 20, 2021 5:10:55 PM

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**From:** Soraya Smith  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 19, 2021 11:35 AM  
**To:** 'Soraya Smith' <[Soraya.Smith@ucf.edu](mailto:Soraya.Smith@ucf.edu)>  
**Subject:** Clarification on COVID Exposures

Dear students,

As the surge in COVID cases continues for our region, many of our in-patient and out-patient clinical sites are experiencing increasingly high numbers of patients with COVID or patient suspected of having COVID. For that reason, we wanted to clarify the CDC definitions for what constitutes an exposure to COVID that would require calling the COVID hotline and contact tracing.

Given the high incidence of COVID positive patients in the clinical settings across our region, there is a high likelihood that you will come in contact with COVID positive patients during your clinical activities. While you are working in a clinical setting, we will be using the modified definition for COVID exposures for healthcare personnel (to include medical students) as defined by the CDC (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html>) to determine what is a significant exposure.

- Medical students wearing the appropriate PPE, as directed by their clinical supervisor, who come in contact with an individual with COVID or suspected to have COVID in the context of clinical care for that individual will not be considered to have a significant exposure and therefore do **NOT** need to contact the UCF COVID hotline **unless they develop symptoms of COVID.**

Although the UCF COM building has been designated as an extended clinical setting, the incidence of COVID in our building is very low. Therefore, we do have the ability to accomplish contact tracing for any suspected exposures to COVID in the context of educational activities at the UCF COM building.

Although we are all wearing masks while in the UCF COM building, individuals will not be wearing the same level of PPE as they would be during direct patient care.

- Therefore, within the UCF COM building, we will be using the CDC definition for exposure to COVID in the general public (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>).

If you are uncertain about your specific situation, as always, use the UCF COVID hotline as your first resource for information and advice.

A armor Up, Charge On!  
JL

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