

# Returning to Work Amid the COVID-19 Pandemic

Protect Health & Safety in the Workplace



**NPAIHB**

*Indian Leadership for Indian Health*

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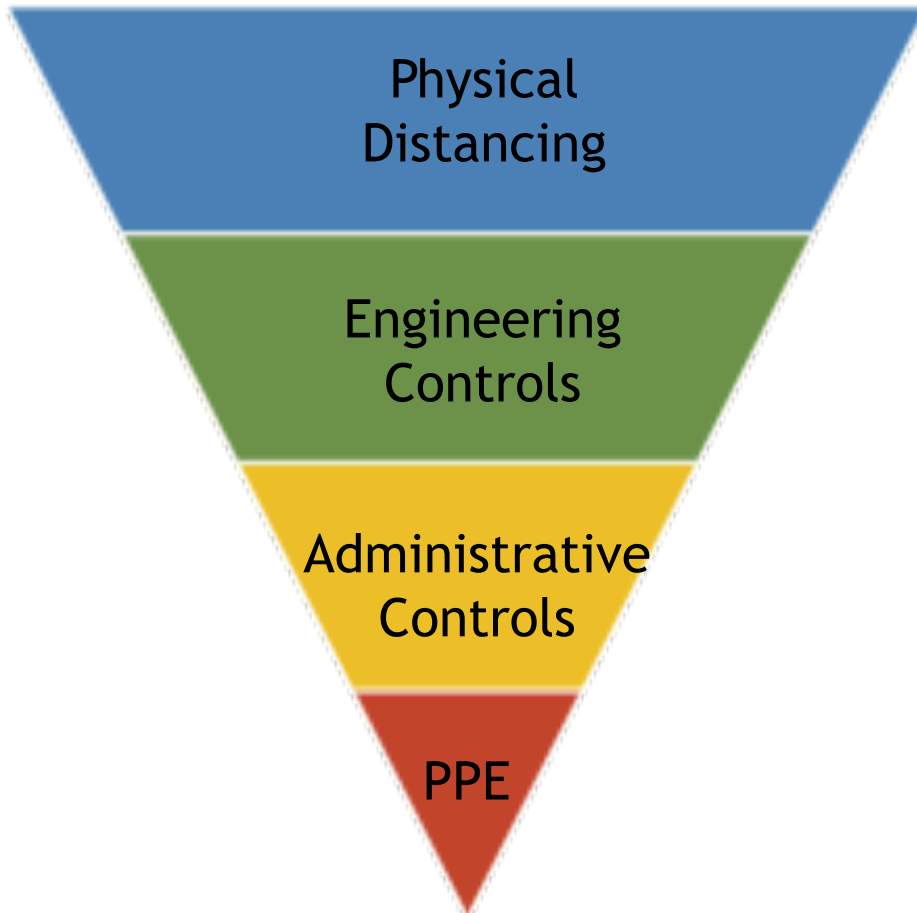
# NPAIHB Occupational Resources

- Guidelines & Checklists for employers by facility:
  - Gaming, offices, & food service
- “Return to Work” PPT presentation (customizable)
- “Return to Work” Handout



# Mitigation Measures: Adapt to Workplace

## Modified Hierarchy of Controls



## Examples of Each

Reconfiguring floor layout to ensure 6' distance, teleworking, virtual meetings, stagger schedules

Installing Plexiglas partitions or physical other barriers, installing automatic door openers,

Staggering work schedules and/or workstations, restricting nonessential travel,

Wearing face coverings, masks, respirators & gloves



# Exposure Risk Varies by Job

Define level of risk for each job:

- Very High- jobs with high potential exposure to known or suspected sources of COVID-19 during medical procedures
  - Ex: doctors, nurses, EMTs, laboratory staff, dentist
- High- jobs with high potential exposure to known or suspected COVID-19 sources
  - Ex: others who work at healthcare facilities like pharmacist or support staff



# Exposure Risk Varies by Job

Most workers fall into one of these levels:

- Medium- jobs that have frequent and/or close contact with the public, clients or coworkers who may be infected but are not known to be
  - Ex: grocery store clerks, food service professionals, counselors, hair salons, teachers
- Low (caution)- jobs that can maintain 6' from others for most of the day
  - Ex: offices where desks are 6' apart



# Employer's Role & Expectations

Image: U.S. Navy



- Ensure staff has access to:
  - Proper PPE for job risk
  - Cleaning & disinfecting materials
  - Soap & paper towels/hand sanitizer
  - Tissues
- Comprehensive fit test (?)
- Environmental health & safety
- Make accommodations
- Ongoing evaluation & adjustments
- Encourage staff input & involvement



# Training & Communication

- COVID-19 Basics
- Policies & procedures for:
  - Physical distancing
  - Daily Screening & checks
  - Policies related to travel, sick leave, quarantine...
- Personal hygiene & PPE:
  - Hand sanitizer & washing hands
  - Face covers, masks & respirators (fit, care, how to select, minimum requirements)
  - Gloves
- Cleaning & disinfecting- Where & when
  - Shared equipment & vehicles
  - Other high touch surfaces
  - Restrooms & eating areas





# How to Clean & Disinfect Safely



- **FIRST** clean **THEN** disinfect
- Use EPA List to select products for use
- Read & follow all label directions for mixing, applying, storage & disposal
- Safety during application
- Provide all materials







# Health Daily Screening



- Upon arrival each day (guests & staff)
- Temperature screening
- Symptoms self-check process and/or log
- Leave work if feeling ill
- Do not come to work if sick or someone in the home is sick with COVID-19 symptoms



# Travel

- Policies & guidelines one when & how
- Personal & work-related
- Consider the different types of travel & encourage those with least risk
- Cancel all nonessential work travel
- When traveling, be extra vigilant & follow all CDC recommendations. Monitor yourself closely. If symptoms present, quarantine for 14 days



**Resources for  
more  
information:**

- **NPAIHB:**

<http://www.npaihb.org/covid-19/>

- **CDC:**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

- **EPA**

<https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/disinfectant-use-and-coronavirus-covid-19>

- **OSHA- Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19.**

<https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3990.pdf>



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