Assessing and notifying individuals is a critical part of our public health efforts with any type of communicable disease that can be transmitted to individuals throughout our community. As part of our activities and response to the novel nature of COVID-19, this “TCHD COVID-19 Case Flow” document provides a general summary from TCHD of how we approach initial testing, notification, public health case investigation, and public health notification. For additional questions, please call TCHD at 303-220-9200.

**Part 1: Initial Testing and Notification**

- Ill person exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 seeks medical care and provider collects sample for lab testing
- Provider orders COVID-19 testing through state lab or commercial lab (i.e. LabCorp, Quest Diagnostics)
- Sample tests positive for COVID-19 at the lab
- Labs are required to immediately report positive samples to the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE)
- CDPHE notifies the local public health agency (LPHA) with jurisdiction over the COVID-19 case’s county of residence

**Part 2: Public Health Case Investigation**

- Communicable Disease Epidemiologist (CDE) calls the COVID-19 case to conduct a case investigation
- Case investigations include:
  - Assessing the case’s symptomology and date of onset
  - Establishing the case’s exposure and infectious period
  - Identifying close contacts and high-risk settings where others may have been exposed to COVID-19
- CDE notifies case of their required isolation period (isolation until they are no longer considered infectious)
- CDE notifies case’s close contacts of their recommended quarantine period (14 days after last exposure to case)

**Part 3: Public Health Notification**

- CDE works with case to identify other entities that may need notified regarding their diagnosis
- Entities may include:
  - Schools and childcares
  - Healthcare facilities
  - Workplaces
  - Group settings (churches, sports clubs)
- CDE works with these entities to determine the level of potential exposure and the type of notification most suitable for the exposure
- Please note: CDE will contact you directly if we have determined that there may be high-risk exposures related to your facility.