



Press Release

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Contractor Tests Positive for COVID-19 in Kotzebue

July 24, 2020 – A contractor coming from Anchorage to work on MHC equipment has tested positive for COVID-19 and is currently in quarantine. The individual was at Maniilaq Health Center for a short period of time but did not enter any patient care areas of the hospital. The individual was only present in the loading dock area, which was terminally cleaned yesterday. A Maniilaq employee was in close contact with this individual during this time and is also in quarantine. Maniilaq Public Health Nursing will be working with the State to conduct contact tracing and reaching out to anyone who may have come into significant contact this case. In the meantime, both individuals will continue to be quarantined, monitored for symptoms and retested per Maniilaq's policies & procedures, and only released per state guidance. The individual's residence is located outside of the Northwest Arctic Borough so will not be included in the region's case count.

Maniilaq encourages residents to practice social distancing, wash your hands frequently, avoid large gatherings, and wear masks in public spaces. It is recommended that residents avoid non-essential travel, including inter-village travel.

If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and symptoms, such as a dry cough or difficulty breathing, call your healthcare provider for medical advice or call Maniilaq's COVID-19 Hotline at 833-442-7015. The following symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle pain or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

For the latest COVID-19 information visit our website at www.maniilaq.org/covid-19

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Kotzebue Qikiqtaruk, Ambler Ivisaappaat, Buckland Nunatchiaq, Deering Ipnatchiaq, Kiana Katyaak, Kivalina Kivaliniq, Kobuk Laugviik, Noatak Nautaaq, Noorvik Nuurvik, Point Hope Tikigaq, Selawik Akuligaq, Shungnak Isinnaq