

Press Release

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TDY Medical Provider Tests Positive for COVID-19 Upon Arrival into Kotzebue

July 8, 2020 – A TDY medical provider has tested positive for COVID-19 (TDY is the term used for providers that come from outside the region for a limited amount of time to provide care). The provider took a COVID-19 test prior to coming to Alaska, however results were unavailable until arrival into Kotzebue. The individual went directly to the hotel upon arrival. Maniilaq has developed a policy and procedure called *Employee Return-to-Work After Travel* which ensures that due consideration is given to where an employee/TDY traveled from and their risk of exposure to COVID-19, before allowing them to come to work. This particular provider has not been involved in any patient care at Maniilaq and remains in quarantine. They will be released by the State after the proper protocol is followed, which is having two (2) negative COVID-19 tests 24 hours apart, and remains asymptomatic.

Maniilaq encourages residents to practice social distancing, wash hands frequently, avoid large gatherings, and wear masks in public spaces. It is recommended that residents avoid non-essential travel, however when travel is deemed necessary we ask travelers be tested before arriving in Kotzebue or to test upon arrival at the Kotzebue airport.

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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