

General Cohorting Principles for Outbreaks

Health care workers who are non-symptomatic and have **ongoing direct contact** with residents or patients and/or their environment must remain working in the same location for the duration of the outbreak.

Health care workers who are non-symptomatic and have **episodic direct and indirect contact** with residents and/or their environment:

- Should be informed by the unit/facility/LTC home of the outbreak and type of organism before entering the environment.
- Non urgent or essential visits/appointments should be delayed until the outbreak is over.
- Use hand hygiene upon entering and exiting of outbreak area. Don appropriate PPE when coming in contact with residents or patients in the outbreak location and other locations.
- Schedule visits/appointments to non-outbreak areas before outbreak areas. While in outbreak area move from asymptomatic to symptomatic residents or patients.
- Should monitor themselves for symptoms and exclude self from work if symptoms begin.

COVID Specific Cohorting Guidelines from MOH & SHA (section 5)

<https://www.saskhealthauthority.ca/news/service-alerts-emergency-events/covid-19/general-info-health-providers/Pages/Home.aspx>