

December 30, 2021

Greetings, Southcoast Colleagues.

In this Bulletin, you will find the following:

- **Updated Return to Work guidelines for all COVID positive staff**
- **Get your COVID-19 vaccine booster dose at a Southcoast employee walk-in clinic!**

Please scroll through the entire Bulletin for these updates, and be sure to visit Southcoast's [COVID-19 Employee Hub](#).

Thank you.

Updated Return to Work guidelines for all COVID positive staff:

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has issued updated isolation requirements for fully vaccinated* healthcare personnel in healthcare settings, in alignment with current CDC recommendations.

- **Effective today, all symptomatic and asymptomatic Southcoast staff must isolate for 5 days after testing positive for COVID-19 and return to work on Day 6.**
- **Symptomatic staff must be fever-free for 24 hours with substantial improvement in symptoms prior to return to work.**
- **The date of specimen collection (test date) is Day 0.**
- **Staff who return to work on Day 6 should avoid caring for patients who are moderately to severely immunocompromised (e.g., patients who are actively undergoing chemotherapy and/or radiation therapy) until after 10 days has passed since their positive test.**

**Fully vaccinated is defined as having received at least two doses of Pfizer or Moderna or one dose of J&J/Janssen vaccine and at least 14 days have passed since the last vaccine dose.*

Refer also to:

[Return to Work Decision Algorithm for Asymptomatic Employees \(updated 12/30/21\).](#)

[Return to Work Decision Algorithm for Symptomatic Employees \(updated 12/30/21\).](#)

Employees who do need to have a COVID-19 test, due to exposure or symptoms, should utilize MyChart to self-schedule their test

- If unable to do so, please call the COVID-19 Employee Hotline at (508) 973-4968 for nurse triage and test scheduling Monday through Saturday, from 8 am - 5 pm.
- The COVID-19 Results line will call you if your result is positive only.
 - Do not call the COVID-19 Results line, they will call you if positive.

Get your COVID-19 vaccine booster dose at a Southcoast employee walk-in clinic!

The schedule for our employee COVID-19 vaccine clinics are posted on the intranet [here](#).

Select a date/time convenient for you and simply walk in. Please complete the consent via the link below in advance of arriving: <https://scapps-internal.southcoast.org/CovidForm>.

All vaccine types are available (Pfizer, Moderna, J&J). Please note that the Center for Disease Control is now recommending that people receive Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, as a primary series and/or as a booster shot.

Thank you, and be well.