



January 14, 2021

Surface Testing Update

I wanted to give a brief update of the surface testing as we have just received specific results locating the source of surface exposure.

First, a quick summary of Enviral Tech's surface testing procedure:

- 5 surface testing kits are received each week to test 5 different "zones" within all of Bayview. Each kit contains 8 vials to place test swabs inside. Each vial represents a different surface within each zone to be tested. A total of 40 different "high-touch" surfaces throughout Bayview are tested each week.
- After sending our weekly kits into the lab, results are reported back to Bayview in zones. Zones 1 through 5 are either negative or positive for the presence of COVID-19 exposure.
- If a zone tests positive, each vial within that positive zone is further tested to determine the exact location of the positive surface.

A brief recap of the past surface testing events:

- During our weekly, routine surface testing, there were **two zones** that showed the presence of COVID-19 – the zone including floor common areas and the zone including A-Level/10th floor. ***Please note in our previous memo, we omitted the important detail that the zone that includes A-level also includes the 10th floor. A-Level and 10th floor are both part of the same zone.***
- Through a series of further re-testing, the individual vial testing results returned and revealed specific location of each positive surface: **the 6th floor common space and the 10th floor.**

The detailed results are as follows:

Zone including Floor Common Areas:

- Floors 3 – 5, 7-9 common space = NEGATIVE
- **6th floor common space = POSITIVE**

Zone including A-Level and 10th floor:

- Board room – Doorknobs, computer keyboard and mouse = NEGATIVE
- Conference Room A – Doorknobs, computer keyboard, and mouse = NEGATIVE
- Childcare – Reception desk, thermometer, keyboards, and mouse = NEGATIVE
- Childcare – Kitchen, refrigerator door handle, freezer door handle, microwave buttons = NEGATIVE
- Main Employee Breakroom – Microwave buttons, countertop, and refrigerator / freezer handles = NEGATIVE
- A-Level public restroom – changing area, sink, doorknobs, faucet handles = NEGATIVE
- Conference room B – Doorknobs, computer keyboard, mouse, and vending machine = NEGATIVE
- **10th floor: Sky Club / Lounge – Tabletops, microwave buttons, and chair arm rests = POSITIVE**

Bayview strongly recommends the following actions:

1. Bayview housekeeping staff have immediately begun deep sanitation efforts on the 10th floor.
2. Bayview housekeeping staff will continue thorough sanitation efforts throughout the facility with special emphasis on the 6th and 10th floors.
3. Employees have been notified to contact their supervisors if they have spent more than 15 cumulative minutes on any day between January 5th, through January 13th, 2021 on the 6th, or 10th floors for contact tracing purposes.
4. Bayview has strongly encouraged everyone to consider being in a “lockdown” situation since January 6th, however, if you have attended informal gatherings on the 10th floor for more than 15 minutes, without the use of a facemask (universal source control) at any time during the gathering, between the dates of January 5th, 2021 through January 13th, 2021, we strongly encourage you to quarantine until January 25th, 2021. Please notify your Primary Care Physician (PCP) to determine your need for testing. Please contact Heather Smith (2313) or Jamie Hart (2107) to arrange safe movement within Bayview to obtain testing outside of Bayview.
 - a. The additional tightening of restrictions and protocols across Independent living is due to the active presence of COVID-19 shedding in predominantly Independent living spaces – 6th floor and 10th floor. We are grateful for your patience and understanding.

Differentiation between Quarantine and Outbreak dates:

In our previous memos, two dates have been mentioned: on January 19th, the Assisted Living and Health Center units will be cleared from “quarantine” and on February 2nd, Bayview will be cleared of an “outbreak” contingent upon no further positive cases of COVID. The Department of Health (DOH) requires 14 days for individuals with a positive case of COVID to clear from a quarantine. However, because Bayview had 2 or more positive cases of COVID and met Centers for Disease Control’s definition of an outbreak, another 14 days is required to be cleared of an outbreak. **February 2nd** is the day in which we will re-evaluate the safe and limited reopening of activities and amenities. As always, we assess our reopening date in conjunction with the Governor’s new safe start plan and multiple local and state health agencies.

As I write this memo, I can’t help but reflect on the year that was defined by heartbreak and heroism in 2020. Much was sacrificed in what seemed to be a muted year of evolving COVID restrictions and protocols. We are two weeks into the new year, King County infection rates are on the rise again and we are still relentlessly fighting the pandemic. I still firmly believe the new year will bring new hope. Your courage, wisdom, strength, and most importantly, compassion is what keeps this community going – for both residents and staff alike.

I want to, once again, thank everyone for their continued support and vigilance to fight the spread of exposure and infection. **More information will follow next week about our prospects for vaccination.** We have been working diligently and daily on all-things vaccine. Hang in there, we will get through this together!

Sincerely,

Joel G. Smith, Health Services Administrator

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