COVID-19 Symptom Screening for Homeless Service Providers

April 3, 2020, 5:00 PM

It is important to ask staff, volunteers and clients if they are experiencing any respiratory symptoms to help identify people who may have COVID-19 illness.

COVID-19 Screening Questions

Be sure that the client is wearing a mask if you suspect illness. Maintain 6 feet distance.

Ask COVID-19 Screening Questions

Have you had any of the following in the last two weeks?

- Fever or feel feverish
- Cough (especially a new or changed cough)
- Shortness of breath
- Sore throat
- Muscle aches (that are different from usual symptoms of opioid withdrawal)

If a staff member or volunteer answers yes to any of the above, direct them to go home and self-isolate until at least 7 days after symptoms have resolved and at least 3 days after fever has resolved.

If a client answers yes to any of the above, ensure the client has a mask on and call the COVID Call Center at 206-477-3977.

If You Identify A Client with Severe COVID-19 Symptoms, Call 911

- Severe symptoms include:
  - Difficulty breathing, short of breath, fast breathing, or skin is paler than normal, or bluish in lighter skinned people and gray or whitish in darker skinned people
  - Coughing up blood
  - Pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen
  - Confusion or does not respond or communicate appropriately
  - Has convulsions (seizures)
  - High fever
  - Severe or persistent vomiting
  - Sudden dizziness
  - Shows signs of dehydration and cannot take enough fluids
  - Is getting worse again after appearing to improve
  - Is an infant younger than 2 months old with fever, poor feeding, urinating less than 3 times per day or other signs of illness

For someone with mild symptoms, encourage the client to call their PCP for further assessment, in addition to calling the Call Center.

If client doesn’t have a PCP, refer to medical provider and provide the CHAP line number 1-800-756-5437.