Date: 9/18/2020

Re: Notification of Positive COVID-19 Case in South Quad Residence Hall

Environment, Health & Safety (EHS) was notified in the evening of 9/17/2020 and morning of 9/18/2020 that two residents in South Quad residing on the third and eighth floor tested positive for COVID-19. The affected persons have been relocated from the building and their last date in South Quad was 9/17/2020. Spaces where the case was present have been cleaned/disinfected or have been isolated.

As of September 18th, there have been 21 confirmed positive covid-19 cases in South Quad. Currently the 6th and 8th floors have the most cases and are the area of focus. Environment, Health and Safety and Washtenaw County Health Department have been monitoring the situation and identified it as a cluster. After extensive investigation, the majority of the cases were found to be connected but three cases on the 6th floor are not associated and have no known source of exposure. While this can happen at any time during a pandemic situation, we are taking additional measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the building. All positive cases and close contacts have been moved to isolation or quarantine.

In alignment with guidance from the Washtenaw County Health Department, the university is taking the following steps:

1. Do not socially visit the 6th or 8th floors as they are expected to follow enhanced social distancing until 10/1/2020.
2. Continue to monitor your health daily by completing the ResponsiBLUE Symptom Tracker. This is a requirement for all individuals on campus daily.
3. Limit social interactions within the dorm as well as on campus.
4. Sign up for priority testing to be tested through the Community Sampling and Tracking program at this link.
5. Anyone that has symptoms or a high risk or known exposure, should contact University Health Service (UHS) at 734-764-8320 or complete the online assessment immediately.

Public health community notification is to proactively make the U-M community aware of positive cases on campus and potential exposures. We are following our protocol for sharing publicly about potential exposures to infectious diseases, like COVID-19, mumps, and Norovirus. EHS working in conjunction with the health department has conducted a risk assessment to determine who may have been in close contact\(^1\) with the infected individual and have provided specific instructions to those identified if quarantine is required. **If you were not directly contacted by an EHS contact tracer, there is no increased risk of exposure and there is no need to quarantine or isolate.** Residents and employees should continue to adhere to the guidance below.

- Wear a face covering or mask.
- Practice physical distancing by spacing yourself at least six feet away from others.
- Stay home when you are sick.

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\(^1\) Close Contact is defined as any of the following even if you or the other person wore a mask: being less than 6 feet apart for 15 minutes or more (regardless of mask use or indoor/outdoor setting), if you were coughed on or sneezed on, hugging or kissing, sharing of utensils or drinking glasses, or are a roommate, intimate partner, or caregiver.
• Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
• Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
• Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
• Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
• Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
• Continue to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 using the ResponsiBLUE Daily Symptom Tracker

If you are a student and are sick or have questions related to COVID-19 call University Health Service (UHS) at 734-764-8320. UHS does provide testing for COVID-19. Be sure to follow the guidance of your healthcare provider and local health department.

If you are an employee and are sick or have questions related to COVID-19, call Occupational Health Services at 734-764-8021. The OHS COVID-19 Call Center is available Monday - Friday 7:00 am – 5:00 pm and Saturday 7:00am – 12:00pm. Employees calling outside of normal business hours can leave a message and OHS will follow up within 24 hours.

We want to reassure everyone that we take your health and safety seriously. Previous public health community notices can be found on the link below: https://campusblueprint.umich.edu/dashboard/dashboard-community-notices

Additional resources regarding COVID-19 can be found on the following websites:

Campus Maize and BluePrint: https://campusblueprint.umich.edu/
Washtenaw County Health Department: https://www.washtenaw.org/3095/COVID-19
U-M Environment, Health & Safety: https://ehs.umich.edu/2020/03/24/ehs-covid-19-information/