



FirstLight Home Care of West Suburban Boston  
781-559-0220

# Suspected or Positive COVID-19 Caregiver Protocols

*as of 4-27-20 (note this is a 2-Page PDF)*

**FirstLight is deeply committed to the health, safety and well-being of all our clients, families, caregivers and staff. If a FirstLight Caregiver or other team member is suspected to have OR has tested positive for COVID-19:**

- Rest assured this individual cannot report to work.
- The Caregiver has been removed from the schedule and is unable to provide care to clients at this time
- Our goal is always to be prepared and to take proper precautions. As such, all FirstLight caregivers and team members follow established infection control protocol regarding staying home when sick
- We have enforced a system for detecting and reporting signs and symptoms of COVID-19 in team members reporting for work.
- In addition to our daily phone screening, all team members are required to self-monitor daily for COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell) and immediately contact their supervisor should they experience one or more symptoms.
- We have instructed our caregivers that, per the CDC, COVID-19 symptoms may appear 2 to 14 days after exposure
- We actively instruct sick team members to stay home; this practice is not new to us.

FirstLight Team Member Symptoms	Best Practice Recommendations (per CDC)	Work Restrictions
FirstLight Team Member <b>Presenting</b> Symptoms: fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell.	<p><b>Team Member</b> immediately calls supervisor</p> <p><b>Team Member</b> has <b>not</b> received COVID-19 testing:</p> <p><b>Team Member</b> <b>has</b> received COVID-19 testing:</p>	<p>Team member excluded from work schedule and guided to self-quarantine and seek healthcare professional advice</p> <hr/> <p>When team member does <b>not</b> receive COVID-19 Testing:</p> <p>Team member may return to work when they have had no fever for 3 days (72 hrs.) without use of medication that reduces fever, and there has been improvement in respiratory symptoms, (cough or shortness of breath have improved)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>~OR~</b></p> <p>Seven (7) days from onset of symptoms, whichever is greater.</p> <hr/> <p>When a team member <b>does receive</b> COVID-19 testing and the result is positive (see below).</p>

FirstLight Team Member Symptoms	Best Practice Recommendations (per CDC)	Work Restrictions
<p>FirstLight Team Member Tests <b>Positive</b> for COVID-19</p>	<p><b>Team Member</b> immediately calls supervisor then:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Validates team member COVID-19 diagnosis</li> <li>2. Notifies client that a caregiver who has provided care to them in the last 14 days, has tested positive and has been removed from the schedule</li> <li>3. Follows local health department requirements</li> <li>4. Assigns new caregiver and request new caregiver/client/family to monitor the client for any signs or symptoms and notify the FirstLight office immediately if the client presents symptoms</li> <li>5. Ensures the new caregiver continues to use standard precautions and infection control protocols to ensure they and their clients are protected</li> </ol>	<p>Team member remains excluded from work schedule, guided to self-quarantine and seek healthcare professional advice</p> <p>Team member may return to work with the following:</p> <p>With 1 negative COVID-19 test under healthcare professional advisement  <b>~OR~</b></p> <p>If retesting is unavailable, when they have no fever for 3 days (72hrs) without use of medication that reduces fever, and there is improvement in respiratory symptoms, (cough or shortness of breath)</p>