

Covid-19: Planning for virus variants

The Next Three Seconds Protects Your Life, Your Loved Ones, Your Livelihood.®

Viruses are constantly changing, including the virus that causes COVID-19.

Some variants spread more easily and quickly than other variants. COVID-19 variants, in particular, are an ongoing challenge all businesses and communities face as there have been several variant waves that have spread rapidly. Implementing safety measures in the workplace to limit virus spread helps protect employees, customers, friends, and loved ones, while also reducing strain on healthcare and community resources.

Review this comprehensive action item list to help keep your employees and communities healthy.

- 1
- Do you currently have enough protective and cleaning supplies for another wave? (i.e. hand sanitizer, masks, gloves and other PPE)
 - **a.** Have you identified suppliers or agencies that can provide these supplies?
 - **b.** Have you evaluated your burn rate of supplies to confirm current stock is adequate? Do you have a defined plan to address another virus outbreak?
- 2 Have previous plans been reviewed and updated with information that has changed?
- **3** Have you assigned a person(s) responsible for monitoring changing national, state, and local guidelines for company locations?
 - If the operations will change again, how will you communicate to employees in an efficient manner?
- 5 Assuming a shutdown is not required, have you identified thresholds to determine how your operations will continue or be altered based on presence of virus, case numbers, hospitalizations, hospital capacity? (i.e. when employees will travel, at what point work from home would be initiated, etc.)
 - Have you identified and evaluated control measures to prevent spread on-site including:
 - a. Are there separate entrances and exits identified to minimize traffic?
 - **b.** Have you created symptom screening plans and procedures identifying who will be assigned, where and how the process will be conducted, supplies needed, and controls for protecting screener employee?
 - **c.** Have you formalized the cleaning process to ensure increased cleaning frequency is continued?
 - **d.** Have you identified an on-call emergency cleaning service that can come to your facilities in a timely manner?
 - e. Can safe work distances be provided for employees if they remain in the office or facility? Plan to keep cohorts of employees that do work together, if possible. Ask employees to stay in their designated work areas (not visiting other departments) unless necessary.

The N3L3 Philosophy

Our approach to protecting workers from fatal and life-changing events.

Eastern Alliance is here to help.

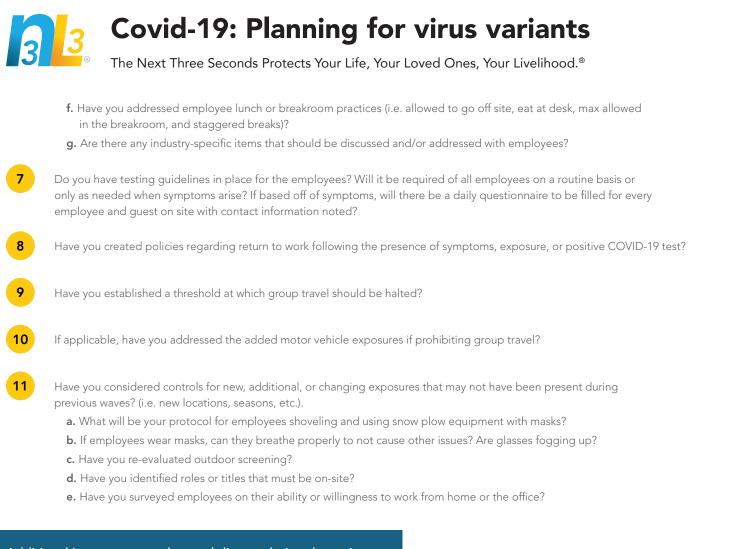
To learn more about our N3L3 program and access other safety resources, sign in and visit the Safety Tools on <u>www.easternalliance.com</u>, or contact your Risk Management Consultant for assistance.

Contact us at 1.885.533.3444

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Additional items to remember and discuss during these times.

- 1 Stay vigilant. Just because your organization wasn't affected previously doesn't mean you won't be if another wave or variant hits. If you were affected previously, have extra precautions in place to prevent outbreaks.
- **2** Be respectful and considerate by following CDC and local guidelines.
- 3 Make time to get outside, get fresh air and soak up some sunshine. Sitting at your workstation all day without moving around can be tough on your mental and physical health.
- 4 Keep moral up (encourage employee lunch and chat over zoom, care packages, etc.)
- 5 Hold wellness campaigns to encourage employees to get their flu shot.
- 6 Consider monetary incentives or bonuses for staff working during COVID-19.
- 7 Allow employees to carryover more PTO into the next year and encourage employees to "staycation."
- 8 Pay attention to the behavior of your co-workers. Offer assistance through your company's EAP program if they are struggling and could use professional support.

