Policy Title: COVID-19	**Effective Date**	September 6, 2022
	Revision Date	
	Approval	August 25, 2022

I. **Purpose**

This document outlines current practices related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

II. **Persons Affected**

All PAI staff members and participants.

III. **Persons Responsible**

All PAI staff members and participants.

IV. **Policy**

A. COVID-19 Prevention Strategies

Regardless of the COVID-19 Community Level (low, medium, and high), PAI recommends staying up to date with vaccinations, improving ventilation, testing individuals who are symptomatic and those who have been exposed, and isolating infected individuals.

B. Testing for Current Infection

Regardless of vaccination status, individuals with a known or suspected exposure to someone with COVID-19 and those who experience symptoms should promptly seek testing through point-of-care and/or at-home tests.

Testing can be used to determine when an infected individual can discontinue wearing a mask. To test, the infected individual must wait until at least day six and they are without a fever for ≥ 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and all other symptoms have improved. If the infected individual chooses to use an at-home antigen test, they must have two negative tests ≥ 48 hours. Two consecutive test results must be negative for an individual to discontinue masking. If either test result is positive, the individual must continue to wear a mask around others.

C. Isolation

Infected individuals should isolate for five or more days and wear a well-fitting and high-quality mask or respirator if they must be around others. Infected individuals may end isolation after five days, only when they are without a fever for ≥ 24 hours without the use of medication and all other symptoms have improved.

D. Managing Exposures

PAI will provide notice for any confirmed cases of COVID-19.

Regardless of vaccination status, quarantine of exposed individuals is not required unless s/he is unable or unwilling to wear a mask. If an individual has a confirmed or suspected exposure to an infected individual, they should wear a mask for 10 days around others when indoors and should receive testing ≥ 5 days after exposure (or sooner, if they are symptomatic).

E. Mask Wearing

Masking is not a requirement, regardless of vaccination status, unless an individual had a confirmed or suspected exposure to an infected individual. Infected individuals should continue to wear a masks or respirator around others through day 10 unless they are able to test (see section B above). If an individual is required to mask, s/he should wear a well-fitted surgical or KN95 masks.

F. Visitors

Visitors are welcome at PAI. If s/he does not feel well or is displaying symptoms of COVID-19, PAI asks that the individual stay home.

Protocol	Participant	Staff	Additional Actions and Information
Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds upon entering the building.	●	●	
For those unable to wash their hands, hand sanitizer will be available.	●	●	
Individuals displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or have a temperature above 99.5 need to be picked-up from PAI within one-hour.	●		
Participants and staff who suspect they have been exposed to COVID-19 must contact their supervisor or staff at PAI Immediately.	●	●	Participants and staff should not report to PAI until they have been cleared per MDH/CDC guidelines.
PAI will provide notice for any confirmed cases of COVID-19.	●	●	PAI will contact the participant's interdisciplinary team via phone and e-mail—and will send a written notice via communication books and ground mail.
Parents, guardians, legal representatives, and residential providers will notify PAI of any confirmed cases of COVID-19.	●		
Vaccination.	●	●	PAI encourages all staff members and participants to stay up to date with their COVID-19 vaccination.
Masks and respirators.	●	●	PAI recommends all individuals at high risk for severe illness to wear a mask or respirator that provides more protection indoors at medium and high COVID-19 community levels.