

**Contact tracing** is a core public health response to COVID-19. Other measures include active case finding or physical distancing. In order to trace a contact, we first need to define what a 'contact' is.



A high-risk (close) contact of a COVID-19 case is any person who has had one or more of the following exposures:



having had face-to-face contact with a COVID-19 case within two metres for more than a total of 15 minutes over a 24-h period (even if not consecutive)



being in a closed environment (household, classroom, meeting room, hospital waiting room, etc.) with a COVID-19 case for more than 15 minutes



having had physical contact with a COVID-19 case



traveling together with a COVID-19 case in any mode of transport for more than 15 minutes



having had direct contact with infectious secretions of a COVID-19 case (for example by being coughed on)



a healthcare worker or other person who was providing care to a COVID-19 case, or laboratory workers who were handling specimens from a COVID-19 case, without recommended personal protective equipment or with a possible breach of such equipment or hand hygiene.