



COVID-19 CASE MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS FOR OFFSHORE ENERGY OPERATIONS

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Table of Contents

1	Overview	2
2	COVID-19 Case Management Considerations.....	2
3	Personnel Isolation	3
3.1	Isolation Room(s)	3
3.2	Personnel Isolation Protocols	3
4	Evacuation of PUI(s)	4
5	Additional Offshore Asset Considerations.....	4



1 Overview

This document contains considerations for COVID-19 case management on offshore assets (production facilities, MODUs, support and construction vessels). The principles of this guidance include the following goals:

- Reducing risk of COVID-19 spread
- Maintain critical operations in a safe manner
- Meet or exceed legal requirements
- Follow ALARP (As Low As Reasonably Practicable)

In the absence of comprehensive public health regulations, these case management considerations should be evaluated by offshore asset operators for inclusion or modification of their current management system practices.

2 COVID-19 Case Management Considerations

Case management plans for offshore assets should consider the following actions to manage the risk of COVID-19 spread. Once an individual is suspected of potentially being infected with COVID-19 (through established screening processes), they can be referred to as a Person Under Investigation, or PUI. Throughout the case management process, appropriate medical, health, and company resources should be notified.

1. Assign one individual or medic the responsibility to monitor the PUI. (*Note: Where on-site medical is not feasible, consider telemedicine options*)
2. Provide an N95 Mask or face shield (or similar) to the PUI as soon as possible
3. Require all personnel engaging a PUI to wear a N95 Mask
4. Verify and document PUI symptoms or risk factors
5. Verify and document areas and personnel onboard where the PUI has touched or interacted with in close proximity
6. Assign PUI to an isolation room
7. Individual should be evacuated as soon as reasonably practicable to an appropriate onshore medical facility for testing
8. Conduct and verify cleaning procedures for isolation room and any areas onboard where PUI was known to touch or interact with
9. Documented individual(s) in close interaction with a PUI or potentially infected areas should be isolated and monitored as PUI(s) for up to 14-days or seek testing



3 Personnel Isolation

Isolation of potentially infected personnel is a valuable mitigation against the risk of COVID-19 spread. Effective isolation includes considerations for dedicated room(s) and related protocols. *Note, all offshore assets may not have sufficient room or configuration to dedicate rooms for isolation. In these circumstances, the asset operator should evaluate available options and consider which mitigations are most effective given the asset configuration.*

3.1 Isolation Room(s)

Offshore assets should consider dedicated isolation room(s) for personnel experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. Each isolation room should be clearly identified and consider containing the following equipment:

- N95 masks for potentially infected personnel use
- Telephone or communication method
- Water
- Soap and disposable towels
- Hand sanitizer should be available within the room
- Dedicated room cleaning materials
- Posted medic and emergency contact methods

Isolation rooms should be considered for ventilation characteristics. To mitigate against airborne transmission through an HVAC system, IPIECA guidance states ‘if practical, the selected isolation room should have an exhaust that is directed to the exterior of the facility’. Where this is not possible, consider minimizing the recirculation of air on the asset.

Isolation rooms configured with a bedroom and en-suite bathroom are preferred.

3.2 Personnel Isolation Protocols

In addition to dedicated isolation room(s), the following protocols should also be considered to decrease the risk of spread onboard the offshore asset.

- Clearly mark the exterior of the isolation room(s)
- Prohibit entry to the isolation room(s) except for PUIs and assigned monitoring staff
- Door(s) to isolation room(s) should remain closed
- All monitoring staff should be required to disinfect hands before and after entering an isolation room
- All monitoring staff should be required to wear N95 masks before entering an isolation room
- Monitoring staff should avoid contact with surfaces within an isolation room
- If an en-suite bathroom is not part of an isolation room, PUI should be required to wear N95 mask and gloves when using a shared bathroom
- If a PUI need to travel to another area onboard, they should be required to wear N95 mask and gloves
- Assets should document areas PUI travel onboard during isolation
- Once isolation room(s) have been vacated and extensively cleaned, the clean status should be clearly documented and posted



4 Evacuation of PUI(s)

Once an PUI has been identified onboard an offshore asset and verification of symptoms or risk factors have been completed, they may require evacuation for testing or treatment. In addition to company medevac procedures, the following consideration for PUI evacuation should be evaluated.

- Consider the severity of illness and availability of transport in evaluating whether a PUI should medevac to an onshore facility or if a test should be administered on the asset.
- Depending on the potential number of individuals the PUI had close contact with, consider options for offshore isolation or options on crew change timing.
- Consider dedicated SARS aircraft or additional measures for helicopter crew during transport and cleaning procedures after transport.

5 Additional Offshore Asset Considerations

Once a COVID-19 PUI has been identified onboard an offshore asset, an asset operator may decide to take additional actions to manage the risk of spread. The following considerations should be evaluated.

- Temporary suspension of routine personnel transportation to and from the asset
- Conduct daily medical screening of all personnel onboard the asset