

Incident Learning: COVID-19 Positive Test Result

- An employee was experiencing chest pains and consulted a personal general medical practitioner.
- During the visit the GP advised that the patient be tested for COVID-19 as precautionary measure.
- The test result was issued 48 hours later indicating a positive result.
- The patient reported the result immediately to the line manager upon notification from the GP.
- The patient was then sent home to self quarantine.
- Actual and potential consequences
 - One positive infected employee
 - 16 first line contacts (potentially infected)

Immediate actions and learning?

- The site contact tracing team was activated and began immediately to categorise the various contacts.
- A total of 16 first line contacts were identified and sent home in terms of the COVID-19 protocols.
 - These employees will be in self quarantine for 14 days and will be tested before returning to the workplace.
- Secondary contacts who had exposure to first line contacts were also identified and are being monitored by the employer.
- Affected building was sanitised and cleaned before occupants could return.

Learnings:

- Source of exposure could not be determined for patient zero and is still under investigation.
- Use of masks at all times is absolutely required especially in public transport and in private vehicles.
- Sanitisation is important