Key Definitions

**Healthcare workers/personnel:** Healthcare workers include physicians, nurses, emergency medical personnel, dental professionals and students, medical and nursing students, laboratory technicians, pharmacists, hospital volunteers, and administrative staff (CDC Definition)

**Community Spread or Transmission:** people have been infected with the virus in an area, including some who are not sure how or where they became infected.

COVID-19 cases include:
- Imported cases in travelers
- Cases among close contacts of a known case
- Community-acquired cases where the source of the infection is unknown

CDC lists the level of community transmission as self-reported by state health departments:
- “Yes, widespread” (defined as: widespread community transmission across several geographical areas);
- “Yes, defined area(s)” (defined as: distinct clusters of cases in a, or a few, defined geographical area(s));
- “Undetermined” (defined as: 1 or more cases but not classified as “Yes” to community transmission); or
- “N/A” (defined as: no cases).

Area of community transmission map updated daily:

**Situation 1:** HCPs (healthcare professionals) traveled from an area without community transmission & experiencing no symptoms

**Action**
- Employee health staff, or appropriate designees, will conduct and record twice daily fever and symptom checks (beginning and middle of shifts).
- At first sign of fever or other symptoms, employee will be relieved of duty, tested for COVID-19, reported to NM DOH, & sent home

**Situation 2:** HCP (healthcare professionals) traveled from an area with community transmission & experiencing no symptoms

**Action**
- Employee placed on 14-day self-isolation and will not be allowed to work.

**Situation 3:** HCP who return to New Mexico from anywhere and are experiencing respiratory symptoms

**Action**
- Employee not allowed to work until they have negative COVID-19 test & respiratory symptoms resolved. Other respiratory resting results (e.g. positive influenza) can also guide recommendation for when the individual can return to work

**Situation 4:** HCP had known exposure to known case of COVID-19 case

**Action**
- Employee should immediately report the exposure to employee health & infection prevention departments.
- Assessment of risk & guidance of next steps found on CDC tables here:


Travel guidelines for the general public in New Mexico are separated into 3 categories & outlined here: