

# COVID-19: Definition of "Close Contact"



**A close contact with a probable or confirmed case is defined as:**



✓ a person living in the same house as a COVID-19 case;

✓ a person who has had direct physical contact with a COVID-19 case (e.g. handshake);

✓ a person who has had unprotected direct contact with the secretions of a COVID-19 case (for example, touching used paper tissues with bare hands);

✓ a person who has had direct contact (face to face) with a case of COVID-19, at a distance of less than 2 meters and lasting more than 15 minutes;

✓ a person who has been in a closed environment (e.g. classroom, meeting room, hospital waiting room) with a COVID-19 case for at least 15 minutes, at a distance of less than 2 meters;

✓ a healthcare professional or other person who provides direct assistance to a COVID-19 case or laboratory staff involved in handling samples of a COVID-19 case without the use of recommended PPE or through the use of unsuitable PPE;

✓ a person who has traveled by sitting in an airplane in the two adjacent seats, in any direction, of a COVID-19 case, travel companions or assistance persons and crew members assigned to the section of the aircraft where the case index was seated (if the index case has a severe symptomatology or has moved within the plane, causing greater passenger exposure, consider all passengers seated in the same section of the plane or throughout the plane as close contacts ).



**The epidemiological connection may have occurred within a period of 14 days before the onset of the disease in the case in question.**

