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SOCOTEC's Pandemic Awareness Training - Coronavirus Update

SOCOTEC's Health & Safety Consultancy team has received a number of questions from clients regarding the best course of action and recommended advice as to how to prevent the spread of Coronavirus in the workplace.

As a result, SOCOTEC has compiled the following information to help you and your organisation adhere to the correct protocol and safety measures:

What do we know about Coronavirus so far?

Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a new strand of virus that can affect the capacity of the lungs and airways, with symptoms including a cough, high temperature and shortness of breath. In more severe cases, infection can lead to pneumonia, severe acute respiratory syndrome, kidney failure and even death.

It should be noted that symptoms such as a cough, high temperature and shortness of breath are not necessarily indicative of Coronavirus unless you have been in close contact with someone who has been confirmed with the illness or have visited a country or area with a high risk of Coronavirus in the last 14 days.

What advice does SOCOTEC have for clients with regards to Coronavirus?

SOCOTEC is closely monitoring the evaluation of the Coronavirus outbreak and advises clients to keep up-to-date with advice from the NHS, Public Health England and the World Health Organisation.

Is there training in place to educate industry professionals on the risks and recommended safety measures associated with Coronavirus?

Diligent planning for pandemics and other global health emergencies can help to protect employees, clients and the wider business. Pandemic Awareness training is designed to provide both employers and employees with an understanding as to how exactly a virus spreads and how they can maintain a good level of hygiene at work. It will also allow delegates to implement a series of protective measures in preparation for the possible spread of a virus in the workplace.

The most effective way of preventing and slowing the spread of Coronavirus is by washing your hands more often with soap and water or a hand sanitiser for 20 seconds whenever you:

- Get home or into work
- Blow your nose, sneeze and cough
- Eat or handle food

If you think you have Coronavirus or have come into contact with someone who has been confirmed as having contracted the illness, please use the NHS 111 Coronavirus service.

To reflect on current health advice regarding Coronavirus, SOCOTEC's Pandemic Awareness e-learning course has been updated accordingly. If you would like to find out more about SOCOTEC's Pandemic Awareness course, please visit [socotecshop.com/products/pandemic-awareness](https://www.socotecshop.com/products/pandemic-awareness)