

COVID-19 Prevention and Response Plan

(Updated DEC 2, 2020)

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COVID-19 Prevention and Response Plan

(Updated 11/2/2020)

As of March 26, 2020, NOAA's Office of Health Services (OHS) implements the procedures described in this plan to reduce the risk of a COVID-19 infection aboard OMAO ships. All persons reporting to OMAO ships must comply with these procedures. The current phase of a ship will be determined at the discretion of OMAO Leadership and Operations, see chart on page 22. Guidance may change as more research and capabilities are known and become available. These procedures may not always apply to ships in a repair period as repair periods, dry docks, shipyards will have their own unique risk mitigation measures.

Phase I

During Phase I, no one is allowed to live aboard ships. NOAA Marine Health Services (MHS) will clear onboarding of the minimum essential crew needed for resource protection and maintenance of critical systems aboard vessels.

Instructions while traveling to the ship location.

Essential personnel that must travel on commercial aircraft to their assigned ship's location must follow these guidelines to avoid exposure and infection from COVID-19. Each state/country may have their own guidelines to follow as well. Select flights with the least number of layovers and avoid traveling through high-risk areas (e.g., hot spots). Personnel must wear a CDC authorized two to three layered cloth face covering that fits over the nose and mouth. The traveler will wear a facial covering in all phases of travel, including transiting terminals (except for passing through security), during the boarding process, while aboard the aircraft, and using ground transportation for travel to and from the airport. Hospital use priority reserves the N95 masks; however, it can provide added protection during travel if available. During ground transportation to the ship's location, the traveler will not make any stops to or from the airport. Do not share taxi cabs. Avoid using buses and local train services. Be aware of social distancing and avoid all unnecessary interaction with other travelers.

OMAO Shelter In Place (SIP) criteria.

Shelter in place means staying at home or your current residence (*hotel*), leaving only for essential activities related to urgent or emergency medical issues, food, and outdoor exercise. The SIP residence must be close enough to the ship's location to drive safely to and from that location with no stops. Before assuming SIP, the traveler needs to plan accordingly, such as fueling vehicles and meal preparations. Do not dine-in at restaurants. Do not visit bars, hair salons, barbershops, gyms, or indoor religious services. Do not participate in public gatherings or social functions. Do not host events or entertain people in your home or other quarters. If you live with other people, those people must also comply with OMAO's SIP criteria to the maximum extent possible. Do not SIP with people that don't otherwise ordinarily reside in your household. Prepare food at home or use a restaurant's curbside or home delivery service. Maintain safe personal and environmental hygiene by frequently washing hands and disinfecting

surfaces and objects you often touch. Maintain 6 feet social distancing and wear a CDC authorized two-three layered cloth face mask over your nose and mouth outside your residence. Wash your hands immediately when you return to your residence.

Instructions for Ship Commands

Ship commands will:

1. Provide Marine Health Services (MHS) the contact information of essential crew reporting to the ship. Contact information includes the SIP address, email address, and cell phone number.
2. Before requesting medical screening, obtain approval from the Marine Center Commanding Officer (CO) when asking an essential crewmember to come aboard.
3. Notify MHS of all essential personnel changes and instruct persons newly assigned as essential personnel to complete a *COVID-19 Reporting Risk Assessment (RRA) Form* by phone or email (email preferred) NLT five days but no sooner than eight days before reporting to the ship. Forms are to be completed **M-F during regular business hours** made directly to the ship's assigned Medical Officer (MO) using the current *COVID-19 Medical Phone Roster*. When required, SIP must occur at the ship's location for a minimum of five days. Crewmember's answers to the RRA is what determines SIP requirements.

Instructions for Essential Crew Reporting to a Ship

Only crew members designated as essential personnel will be allowed to come aboard the ship during the marine operations suspension period.

All essential crew will:

1. Utilize the *COVID-19 Medical Phone Roster* to determine the MHS MO supporting the ship. The crew can obtain this roster from the ship's command.
2. All essential crew will complete a *COVID-19 Reporting Risk Assessment (RRA) Form* when reporting for the first time or if it's been more than 5 days since last screening aboard the ship. The RRA can be completed verbally by phone or by the more preferred method, email, no later than five days and no sooner than eight days before reporting to the ship. Forms are to be completed **M-F during regular business hours** and sent directly to the ship's assigned MO using the current *COVID-19 Medical Phone Roster*.
 - a. Answers on the RRA will determine if SIP is required.

3. If SIP is required, take all necessary preparations to complete a minimum of five days at the ship's location. You must adhere to the travel instructions in this plan if travel is required to reach the ship's location.
4. During the five days of required SIP, report any new or questionable symptoms or new exposures immediately to the ship's assigned screener. The screener shall notify the assigned MO. The MO will notify the ship's command that your clearance has been temporarily revoked based on new symptoms.
5. Obtain a *COVID-19 Symptom Screening Assessment* each day before coming aboard the ship. This form is for the ship screener's guidance only and does not need to be completed. This is logged on the *COVID-19 Daily Symptom Screening Log*, a shared google document.
6. Remain in place, inform your assigned MO & ship's command, and self-isolate if you develop COVID-19 related symptoms. **Do not report to the ship with any symptoms.** Symptoms include but are not limited to fever, body aches, chills, cough, fatigue, shortness of breath, loss of smell or taste, and stomach and GI symptoms. MHS will connect you to the marine center Chief Ops and the MCCs for testing. MHS and ship's command will address the Return to Work guidelines.
 - a. **Immediately call 911 and request emergency medical assistance if you experience severe bleeding, chest pain, difficulty breathing, or need assistance to eat, drink, go to the bathroom, take medications, or any medical concerns.**
7. If more than five days passes between the last screenings, a new clearance is required from the assigned ship MO.

Instructions for Medical Person in Charge or Designated Screener

The MPIC or designated screener will:

1. Notify MHS that the ship's command has assigned you to perform daily screenings for the ship, and you that you need access to the *COVID-19 Daily Screening Log*.
2. Obtain screening assessment and HIPAA training from MHS if not already completed.
3. Check the *COVID-19 Daily Screening Log* to determine who has been medically approved by the assigned MO to report to the ship before performing daily screenings.
4. Perform *COVID-19 Symptom Screening Assessment* on all personnel planning on coming aboard the ship during their five days of required SIP (if applicable) and document that assessment on the *COVID-19 Daily Screening Log*.

5. Verify their SIP compliance on the first day of work, if applicable.
6. Continue to perform a daily *COVID-19 Symptom Screening Assessment* each day of reporting to work. This form is for the ship screener's guidance only and does not need to be completed. This is logged on the *COVID-19 Daily Symptom Screening Log*, a shared google document.
7. Instruct personnel with symptoms that have been associated with COVID-19 to go home and self-isolate. Determine if the symptomatic person has been aboard a ship in the past five days, then immediately notify the assigned MO and your ship's command.
 - a. Direct the crew member to call 911 for emergency medical care with severe bleeding, chest pain, difficulty breathing if the patient can no longer provide self-care or any other medical concern.
8. Do not allow any previously symptomatic individual to return to work (RTW) until the assigned MO gives medical clearance to report to the ship.

Instructions for Marine Health Services Medical Officers

When screening ship personnel, the assigned MO will:

1. Perform the RRA on all personnel that the ship's command has deemed essential using the *COVID-19 Reporting Risk Assessment Form*. Provide brief risk mitigation and SIP instructions if SIP is determined to be required. Send email notifications to the Ship CO/XO, designee, when someone can be medically approved to report.
2. Document the completion of the RRA on the *COVID-19 Daily Screening Log*.
3. Instruct individuals who are approved based on the RRA that they may proceed to the ship the next day. If they do not need next day access, reinforce avoidance of those same high risk activities deemed prohibited before reporting to work. Those requiring SIP based on question #5 of the RRA are to begin five consecutive days of SIP before entering the ship. During their SIP, inform individuals to reach out to the ship's command (OOD, MPIC, or other designees) to determine who their POC will be for daily screening checks during the five days of SIP.
4. Instruct crew that each day before boarding the ship, they are to obtain a screening assessment and that they shall be asked to verify five consecutive days of SIP (if required) by the Ship's MPIC or the designated screener. If SIP is required, the verification of adherence will be on the first day of work only.

5. Review positive COVID-19 Symptom Screening Assessments being completed by the ship screeners and offer further guidance as appropriate.
6. Provide instructions to symptomatic personnel to self-isolate, then initiate a *COVID-19 Isolation Surveillance Form* if COVID-19 suspected. Assess the crew member's self-care ability, determine assistance the crew member will need to maintain isolation, and inform the ship's command and marine operation's leadership of these needs.
7. Assist with Contact Tracing as needed.
8. Notify the Director of Marine Medicine when someone develops symptoms and determine if the symptomatic person has been aboard a ship in the past five days.
 - a. The Director of Marine Medicine will consult with the Ship CO and Marine Center CO to determine if ship disinfection is needed.
9. Offer guidance and assistance to the MCC's to coordinate COVID-19 testing and retesting as needed.
10. For an isolated crew member, maintain daily or more frequent contact as needed. Advise the crew member regarding the use of OTC medications for symptom relief. Advise family, ship, and marine center personnel who may assist the isolated crew member in obtaining needed OTC medications.
 - a. Direct crew member to call 911 for emergency medical care if severe bleeding, chest pain, difficulty breathing, and the patient can no longer provide self-care or any other medical concerns.
11. Direct the family, shipmate, or marine center personnel to visit the crew member at the isolation site if they do not respond to communication attempts. Advise them on wearing proper PPE.
12. Provide updates on the isolated crewmember's status as requested or required by OMAO, Marine Operations, and Safety and Environmental Compliance Office (SECO). Report the status of isolated NOAA Corps Officers as requested or required by the Commissioned Personnel Center.
13. Utilize the *OMAO Return to Work Guidance* from OHS and *COVID-19 Decision Matrix* to determine when an isolated crew member can return to work.

Phase II/III

During Phase II and III, no one can live aboard the ship. The Medical Officer (MO) will medically clear the onboarding of the minimum number of crew needed to restore and certify operational readiness systems. The MO may recommend the medical clearance of contractors, inspectors, and scientists who travel to the ship from within the local area (Phase II) and outside the local area (Phase III) to report aboard. Only when a ship's command meets the preventive measures recommended in the *COVID-19 Outbreak Management Plan* will a ship be cleared to get underway for day trips required for system checks and inspections. Marine Ops defines which, Phase II vs III, and how many staff can or should be working under the guidance of OHS. Medical instructions herein are the same for Phase II and III.

Instructions while traveling to the ship location.

No change, use the same criteria as Phase I

OMAO Shelter In Place (SIP) criteria.

No change, use the same criteria as Phase I, with one exception regarding contractors traveling by commercial air (see below).

Instructions for Ship Commands

Ship commands will:

1. Provide Marine Health Services (MHS) the contact information of crew, contractors, inspectors, or scientists reporting to the ship. Contact information includes SIP address, email address, and cell phone number.
2. Similar to Phase I, instruct crewmembers to complete a *COVID-19 Reporting Risk Assessment (RRA) Form*. The RRA can be completed verbally by phone or by the more preferred method, email, no later than five days and no sooner than eight days before reporting to the ship. Forms are to be completed **M-F during regular business hours** and sent directly to the ship's assigned MO using the current *COVID-19 Medical Phone Roster*.
3. Instruct non-crewmembers to complete a COVID-19 RRA form. The RRA can be completed verbally by phone or by the more preferred method, email, no later than five days and no sooner than eight days before reporting to the ship. Forms are to be completed **M-F during regular business hours** and sent directly to the ship's assigned MO using the current *COVID-19 Medical Phone Roster*. Contractors are not required to SIP at the ship's location, (if SIP is required).
 - a. The SIP Criteria procedure does not require SIP for contractors traveling by air to occur at the ship's location. In this case, these personnel must wear the N95 mask for the first five days aboard the ship. Provide them with 2 N95s, do not use sickbay stock.

4. Instruct personnel to obtain a *COVID-19 Symptom Screening Assessment* from the OOD, MPIC, or designee each day while sheltering in place, if required.
5. Ensure all crew, contractors, inspectors, and scientists have obtained medical clearance to report. The assigned MO will email the Ship's CO, XO, or designee that the RRA was received and whether SIP is or is not required.
6. Ensure the ship's complement includes sufficient MPICs or trained screeners to perform daily screening of all persons coming aboard the ship.
7. Ensure crew that will perform daily COVID-19 screening have completed HIPAA training and have obtained COVID-19 screening assessment training from MHS staff.
8. Ensure all persons reporting to the ship complete a *COVID-19 Symptom Screening Assessment* each day of reporting to work. This form is for the ship screener's guidance only and does not need to be completed. This is logged on the *COVID-19 Daily Symptom Screening Log*, a shared google document.
9. Implement COVID-19 prevention measures recommended in the *COVID-19 Outbreak Management Plan* for OMAO Ships before getting underway for day trips.
10. Assist in contact tracing in cases of suspected or confirmed positive COVID-19 cases.
11. Report Positive Cases per *MOC COVID-19 Decision Matrix*.

Instructions for Crew Reporting to a Ship

The only crew allowed to come aboard a ship during Phase II/III are those requested by the Ship's CO and medically cleared by MHS.

All crew will:

1. Utilize the *COVID-19 Medical Phone Roster* to determine which assigned MO is supporting the ship, obtained from the ship's command.
2. Complete a *COVID-19 Reporting Risk Assessment (RRA) Form* when reporting for the first time or if it's been more than 5 days since last screen aboard the ship. The RRA can be completed verbally by phone or by the more preferred method, email, no later than five days and no sooner than eight days before reporting to the ship. Forms are to be completed **M-F during regular business hours** and sent directly to the ship's assigned MO using the current *COVID-19 Medical Phone Roster*.
 - a. Answers on the RRA will determine if SIP is required.

3. Take all necessary preparations needed to complete a minimum of five days of SIP at the ship's location, if SIP required. You must adhere to the travel instructions in Phase I of this plan if travel is required to reach the ship's location.
4. During the five days of required SIP, report any new or questionable symptoms or new exposures immediately to the ship's assigned screener. The screener shall notify the assigned MO.
 - a. The assigned MO will notify the ship's command that your clearance has been temporarily revoked based on new symptoms or exposures.
5. The crewmember will obtain screening each day before coming aboard the ship.
 - a. (*COVID-19 Symptom Screening Assessment*), is a document that only serves as guidance for the symptom screener or MPIC who will use it to populate the daily log and will not need to be filled out daily.
6. If a crewmember develops any illness symptoms, he or she should remain in place, inform the assigned MO & ship's command, and self-isolate. **Do not report to the ship with symptoms.** Those symptoms include fever, body aches, chills, cough, fatigue, shortness of breath, loss of smell or taste, and GI symptoms. The MHS will connect you to the marine center Chief Ops and the MCCs for testing.
 - a. The MHS will discuss the Return to Work guidelines with the crewmember.
7. Immediately call 911 and request emergency medical assistance if you experience severe bleeding, chest pain, difficulty breathing, or need assistance to eat, drink, go to the bathroom, take medications, and any other medical concern.
8. If more than five days passes between the last screenings, a new clearance is required from the assigned ship MO

Instructions for Non-crewmembers/Non-OMAO Staff: Contractors, Inspectors, and Scientists

Only those contractors, inspectors, and scientists requested by the ship CO, approved by the Marine Center CO, and medically cleared by MHS will be allowed to come aboard a ship during Phase II/III.

Contractors, inspectors, and scientists will:

1. Utilize the *COVID-19 Medical Phone Roster* to determine which assigned MO is supporting the ship, obtained from the ship's command.

2. Complete a *COVID-19 Reporting Risk Assessment (RRA) Form* when reporting for the first time or if it's been more than 5 days since last screen aboard the ship. The RRA can be completed verbally by phone or by the more preferred method, email, no later than five days and no sooner than eight days before reporting to the ship. Forms are to be completed **M-F during regular business hours** and sent directly to the ship's assigned MO using the current *COVID-19 Medical Phone Roster*.
 - a. Answers on the RRA will determine if SIP is required.
3. Take all necessary preparations needed to complete a minimum of five days of SIP, if SIP required, preferably at the ship's location; however, only **contractors** traveling by air to get to the ship's location must wear the N95 mask for the first five days aboard the ship in lieu of SIP at the ship's location. The contractor should be provided with two N95 masks from ship supply if needed.
4. During the five days of SIP, if required, report any new or questionable symptoms or new exposures immediately to the ship's assigned screener. The screener shall notify the assigned MO.
 - a. The assigned MO will notify the ship's command that your clearance has been temporarily revoked based on new symptoms.
5. Obtain screening each day before coming aboard the ship.
 - a. Although this is a form (*COVID-19 Symptom Screening Assessment*), its information serves as guidance for the screener who will use it to populate the daily log.
6. **Do not come aboard the Ship with COVID-19 symptoms or other illnesses.** Those symptoms include but are not limited to fever, body aches, chills, cough, fatigue, shortness of breath, loss of smell or taste, and GI symptoms. Persons with symptoms should begin self-isolation and contact their medical providers or local public health authority for further advice.
7. If more than five days passes between the last screenings, a new clearance is required from the assigned ship MO

Instructions for Medical Person in Charge or Designated Screener

No change, use the same criteria as Phase I

Instructions for Marine Health Services Medical Officers

No change, use the same criteria as Phase I

When screening local contractors, inspectors, and scientists, the MHS MO will:

1. Perform a RRA on all personnel that the ship's command has deemed essential using the *COVID-19 Reporting Risk Assessment Form*. Provide brief risk mitigation and SIP instructions if SIP is determined to be required. Send email notifications to the Ship CO/XO, designee, when someone can be medically approved to report.
2. Document the completion of the RRA on the *COVID-19 Daily Screening Log*.
3. Instruct individuals that can be approved based on the RRA that they may proceed to the ship the next day. If they don't need access the next day, remind them that the activities listed are prohibited up until reporting to work. Those required to SIP based on question #5 of the RRA are to begin five consecutive days of SIP before entering the ship.
4. Instruct individuals who require SIP they are to reach out to the ship's command, such as the OOD, MPIC, or other designees, to determine who their POC will be for daily screening during the five days of SIP.
5. Instruct crew that each day before boarding the ship, they are to obtain a screening assessment and that they shall be asked to verify five consecutive days of SIP (if required) by the Ship's MPIC or the designated screener. If SIP was required, the verification of adherence will be on the first day of work only.
 - a. The procedure does not require contractors traveling by air to SIP at the ship's location. In this case, personnel must wear the N95 mask for the first five days aboard the ship. The ship will provide them with 2 N95s if needed. Do not advise them to use sickbay stock.
6. Send email notifications to the ship's command and MOC command when a contractor, inspector, or scientist reports symptoms. Additionally, notify the command that illness or symptoms have temporarily revoked the individuals' clearance.
7. Instruct a contractor, inspector, or scientist with symptoms to not report to the ship, begin self-isolation, and contact their supervisor and medical provider for further medical advice.
8. Inform contractors, inspectors, and scientists recovered from symptoms to contact the Ship's assigned MO in the latest *COVID-19 Medical Phone Roster*. The MO will determine medical approval to report back to duty.

Phase IV/Phase V

During Phase IV, crew members will be allowed to resume living aboard their assigned ship only after sheltering in place for seven consecutive days and obtaining two negative COVID-19 tests using the approved OMAO lab contract. Before crew members reoccupy their ship, contractors such as maintenance and repair must have finalized all work, and cleaning crews must have thoroughly disinfected the vessel. After moving aboard, crew members will continue to obtain daily COVID-19 screening from the ship's Medical Clearance Coordinator, Medical Person in Charge (MPIC), or designee. Phase V follows immediately after the ship's departure; therefore, Phase V is "Underway" and only present for operational purposes, hence the combination of phases herein.

Instructions while traveling to the ship location for duty.

No change, use the same criteria as Phase I, II, and III

OMAO Shelter In Place (SIP) criteria.

All personnel will complete their travel to the SIP location NLT 8 days before the embarkation date, otherwise see Phase I OMAO Shelter In Place (SIP) criteria.

COVID-19 Testing Criteria and Travel Instructions

As soon as available, MCCs, Marine Ops, and MHS will provide all crew members with instructions for obtaining a COVID-19 test. Instructions will include the testing location, testing time, and safety protocols that individuals shall follow during testing. Testing will occur on the fourth or fifth day of the SIP period by the OMAO contracted lab vendor. Test results will be reported to individuals by the MCCs, Marine Ops, or MHS as soon as available, usually within 48 hours of receipt. Medical approval to move aboard the ship will be contingent on two negative test results and a seven-day SIP. The crew must practice strict social distancing and wear an authorized two-layered cloth facial covering that conceals the mouth and nose while traveling from the SIP location to the COVID-19 testing site.

There should be no stops at any location during travel to the testing site. Avoid sharing taxi cabs, Uber/Lyft, rental cars. Avoid public transportation (buses and local train services) if at all possible. Hospitals reserve the use of N95 masks and surgical masks but, if available, can provide added protection during travel. Upon arrival to the test site, avoid unnecessary interaction with other crew members and scientists, and follow the testing administrators' safety protocols. There may be no feasible option but to travel to the testing site together; therefore, travel with windows down, masks on (N95 highly preferred if available), no talking, and no singing to reduce the spread of droplets. If the car ride is greater than 15 minutes and testing notes one passenger as positive, all passengers are considered close contacts.

After testing, there may be a situation when a vessel must return to Phase III. In this situation, no one is to board without clearance from the ship's command and MHS. seven-day SIP.

Instructions for Ship Commands

Ship commands will:

1. Provide MHS and the COVID-19 Medical Clearance Coordinator (MCC) the date that the crew plans to move aboard and the contact information for all crew members NLT 10 days before moving aboard. Contact information includes SIP address, email address, and cell phone number.
2. Provide crew members the name and contact information for the MCC and assigned MO supporting the ship listed in the *COVID-19 Medical Phone Roster*.
3. No later than ten days before departure, instruct all sailing personnel that are not at the ship's point of embarkation and/or who have not had access to the ship during Phase II/III within the past five days to complete/submit a *COVID-19 Reporting Risk Assessment (RRA)*.
 - a. The RRA can be completed verbally by phone or by the more preferred method, email. Forms are to be completed **M-F during regular business hours** and sent directly to the ship's assigned MO using the current *COVID-19 Medical Phone Roster*.
4. Ensure that all crew has completed their travel to the SIP location NLT eight days before the move aboard date.
5. Instruct crew to obtain a COVID-19 Screening from the MCC, MPIC, or designee each day while sheltering in place.
6. Maintain contact with the crew who have developed symptoms during the SIP period and coordinate assistance needed during self-isolation.
7. Ensure ship complement includes sufficient MPICs (or designees) to perform daily COVID-19 screening of all crew before and after departure during sailing.
8. Ensure crew that will perform daily COVID-19 screening have completed HIPAA training and have obtained COVID-19 Screening Assessment Training from MHS staff.
9. Implement all COVID-19 prevention measures recommended in the *COVID-19 Outbreak Management Plan* for OMAO Ships before getting underway.
10. Assist in contact tracing as needed in cases of suspected or confirmed positive COVID-19 cases.
11. Report Positive Cases and offer RTW guidance as per *MOC COVID-19 Decision Matrix*.

Instructions for Crew Members (and other non-mission sailing crew)

All crew members (or other non-mission sailing crew) will:

1. Utilize the *COVID-19 Medical Phone Roster* to determine the MHS MO and the MCC supporting the ship, obtained from the ship's command.
2. Those sailing personnel that are not at the ship's point of embarkation and/or who have not had access to the ship during Phase II/III within the past five days must submit a *COVID-19 Reporting Risk Assessment (RRA)* form ten days before sailing. Forms can be emailed or reported via phone call **M-F during regular business hours** directly to the ship's assigned MO using the current *COVID-19 Medical Phone Roster*.
3. Comply with travel guidance in this plan while traveling for SIP and COVID-19 testing. Complete all travel to the SIP location NLT eight days before the planned move aboard date.
4. Take all necessary preparations needed to complete seven days of SIP at the ship's location.
5. Contact the MCC or designee daily during the seven days of SIP period to obtain a *COVID-19 Symptom Screening Assessment*. COVID-19 related symptoms you must report during the screening assessment include fever, body aches, chills, cough, fatigue, shortness of breath, loss of smell or taste, and GI symptoms. If you develop COVID-19 related symptoms during the SIP period, the assigned MCC will instruct you to remain in self-isolation and await further instructions from the MO and/or ship's command. The MO will not medically clear you to board the ship for the planned cruise. The MO will discuss the return to work guidelines.
6. Obtain COVID-19 testing on the fourth or fifth day of SIP. Ship's command is responsible for sharing testing site and time/schedule for testing.
7. Daily screening will continue with the MCC until you complete seven days of SIP as well as two negative lab results. MHS will give the ship's command the clearance after confirming two negative results. The crew will be cleared by ship's command to move aboard the ship after seven days of SIP and two negative tests.
8. Comply with all illness prevention measures identified in the *COVID-19 Outbreak Management Plan* for OMAO Ships, which requires wearing an authorized face covering over the nose and mouth at all times and social distancing of 6 feet or more when possible.
9. Obtain daily screening from the shipboard MPIC or ship MO at the beginning of each workday after departure during sailing.

Instructions for Medical Clearance Coordinators

The MCC will:

1. Notify MHS that the ship's command assigned you to perform daily screenings for the ship and request access to the *COVID-19 Daily Screening Log* if not already complete in prior phases.
2. Obtain COVID-19 screening assessment and HIPAA training from MHS if not already completed.
3. Verify completion and MHS clearance of the *COVID-19 Reporting Risk Assessment (RRA)* document for those that have had to travel to the ship's point of embarkation before SIP commences.
4. Coordinate COVID-19 testing along with Marine Ops. MHS will assist in administering testing as needed at a Marine Center when possible.
5. Perform a daily COVID-19 screening assessment of all crew members during the seven day SIP period. Document all COVID-19 screening assessments on the *COVID-19 Daily Screening Log*.
6. Instruct crew members that report symptoms that have been associated with COVID-19 to self-isolate, then initiate a *COVID-19 Isolation Surveillance Form*. Assess the crew member's self-care ability, determine assistance the person will need to maintain isolation, and inform the ship's command of these needs.
7. Notify the assigned ship MO of any crew member with positive symptoms or positive results. If positive results are received over the weekend or on a Holiday, the MCCs are to call the On-Call Emergency Phone for MOCA @ (757) 615-6619 or MOCP @ (206) 409-8725.
8. Maintain daily contact with an isolated crew member and more frequent contact if needed—document all contacts on the *COVID-19 Isolation Surveillance Form*. Direct the crew member to call 911 for emergency medical care if severe bleeding, chest pain, difficulty breathing, or patient can no longer provide self-care.
9. Ship's command and MHS will complete contact tracing, however, MCCs are to coordinate retesting/testing.
10. Notify the ship's command, Chief Ops, and MHS when a crew member has completed the SIP and COVID-19 testing requirements.

- a. When positive results are received over the weekend or on a Holiday, the MCCs will call the On-Call Emergency Phone for MOCA @ (757) 615-6619 or MOCP @ (206) 409-8725.

Instructions for Marine Health Services Medical Officers

The MHS MO will:

1. Review positive assessments, *COVID-19 Reporting Risk Assessment* or positive *COVID-19 Symptom Screening Assessments* and offer further guidance.
2. For Marine Center testing, the MCCs/Chief ops will coordinate logistics for obtaining the COVID-19 test kits. MHS will administer and ship the tests. The assigned MO will review the lab results of the crew in a SIP status and, if appropriate, give final clearance to move after 7 days of SIP is complete.
3. When emailing the ship's command regarding a crew member's medical clearance status, the MO is directed to carbon copy the MCC. Carbon copying the MCC is required because the MCC is likely to have notified the MHS of a crewmember's symptoms, a positive result, or possible exposure.
4. Contact crew that reported any symptoms to the MCC during the SIP period to determine if medical approval to report to the ship will be possible (unlikely but circumstantial and clinical based). Send an email notification to the ship's command and cc MCC if someone could not be approved to report to the ship.
5. Review positive COVID-19 test results and assist in retesting and return to work guidance. Email/Notify Marine Center CO, Ship CO (if not already aware).
6. Assist in contract tracing as needed in cases of suspected or confirmed positive COVID-19 cases.
7. MHS gives the final clearance to move aboard.

Instructions for MPICs and Designated Screeners aboard ships during Phase IV, V, and VI

MPICs and screeners aboard ships will:

1. At the discretion of ship's command, the MPICs or designated ship screeners may perform the daily COVID-19 screenings of all crew during the SIP instead of the MCC if they so choose; (please MCC instructions as above). The ship will assume responsibility of screening after departure during sailing.
2. Instruct a crew member with symptoms to self-isolate, then initiate a *COVID-19 Isolation Surveillance Form*. Assess the individual's self-care ability to determine the assistance level the individual will need to maintain isolation.

3. Inform the ship's command when a crew member has reported symptoms, notify the assigned MO. If the ship is underway, use the Medical Emergency Phone to contact the on-call Atlantic or Pacific Medical Officer.
4. After discussion with the On-Call Medical Officer and concurrence with the ship's command, the isolation precautions required by the *COVID-19 Outbreak Management Plan* for OMAO Ships will be implemented, the MPIC will be leading this effort to establish the OMP guideline.

Phase VI

During Phase VI, scientists will be allowed to move aboard, and the ship will go underway for scheduled cruises. The MO will medically clear scientists to move aboard their assigned vessel only after sheltering in place for seven consecutive days **and** obtaining two negative COVID-19 tests using the approved OMAO lab contract. Scientists must shelter in place (SIP) and undergo the COVID-19 test in accordance with criteria provided in this plan. Scientists will have a COVID-19 test on the fourth or fifth day of the SIP period. After moving aboard, crew members will continue to undergo daily COVID-19 screening from the ship's assigned MO, Medical Person in Charge (MPIC) or designee. All persons reporting to ships during Phase VI must comply with these procedures.

Instructions while traveling to the ship location.

See Phase I *instructions while traveling to the ship locations*.

OMAO Shelter In Place (SIP) criteria.

See Phase I OMAO Shelter In Place (SIP) criteria. (All personnel will complete their travel to the SIP location NLT 8 days before the embarkation date).

COVID-19 Testing Criteria and Travel Instructions

No change, use the same criteria as Phase IV and V

Instructions for Ship Commands

Ship commands will:

1. Same as in Phases IV/V

Instructions for Chief Scientists

Chief scientists will:

1. NLT 15 days before the planned embarkation date provides Marine Health Services (MHS) and the COVID-19 Medical Clearance Coordinator (MCC) cruise information (project name, ship, dates, embarkation location, disembarkation location) and the contact information for all scientists that will be sailing on the cruise. Contact information includes SIP address, email address, and cell phone number.
2. Inform those sailing scientists that are not at the ship's point of embarkation and/or who have not had access to the ship during Phase II/III within the past five days must submit a *COVID-19 Reporting Risk Assessment (RRA)* form ten days before sailing. Forms can be emailed directly to the ship's assigned MCC, processed M-F during regular business hours.
 - a. Most scientists will not have had access to the ship in the 5 days prior to the beginning of the planned SIP unless they were there early for equipment

drop-off, inventory, inspection etc., therefore, most will need to submit an RRA.

3. NLT 8 days before the planned embarkation date ensure that all science team members have completed their travel to the SIP location.
4. Maintain contact with science party members that have developed symptoms during the SIP period and coordinate assistance needed during self-isolation.
5. Be prepared to self-isolate if you yourself develop symptoms and how you would administer self-care should symptoms develop.
6. The MO will not give clearance to board the planned cruise if anyone symptomatic or if the COVID-19 test results are not negative.

Instructions for Scientists

Assigned science party members will:

1. Verify the completion of a current *NOAA Health Services Questionnaire (NOAA Form 57-10-01)* and Tuberculosis screening document (NOAA Form 57-10-02) as per normal standard operating procedures.
2. Ship's command shall direct you to mo.mcc@noaa.gov for your ship's assigned Medical Clearance Coordinator supporting the ship. The assigned ship medical officer can be found on the *COVID-19 Medical Phone Roster*.
3. Personnel reporting to the ship to load or inspect the equipment before the start of SIP must meet the guidelines for scientists and contractors outlined in phase II/III.
4. Sailing scientists that are not at the ship's point of embarkation and/or who have not had access to the ship during Phase II/III within the past five days must submit a *COVID-19 Reporting Risk Assessment (RRA)* form ten days before sailing. Forms can be emailed directly to the ship's assigned MCC, **processed M-F during regular business hours**. Notify the chief scientist immediately if you have not been cleared to report to the ship.
 - a. Note: most scientists will not have had access to the ship in the 5 days prior to the beginning of the planned SIP unless they were there early for equipment drop-off, inventory, inspection etc., therefore, most will need to submit an RRA.
5. Comply with travel guidance in this plan while traveling for SIP or traveling to the COVID-19 testing location. Complete all travel to the SIP location NLT 8 days before the planned embarkation date.

6. Take all necessary preparations needed to complete seven days of SIP at the ship's location. You must adhere to the travel instructions in this plan if travel is required to reach the ship's location.
7. Contact the MCC daily during the SIP period to obtain a *COVID-19 Symptom Screening Assessment*. During the assessment, symptoms you must report include fever, body aches, chills, cough, fatigue, shortness of breath, loss of smell or taste, GI symptoms, and any medical concern. If you develop COVID-19 related symptoms during the SIP period, you will be instructed to remain in self-isolation. Plan for your self-care assistance should symptoms develop.
8. Obtain COVID-19 testing on the fourth or fifth day of SIP. The chief scientist or the ship's command staff will provide instructions.
9. You will not be cleared to board the ship for the planned cruise if you are ill or if your lab result is positive, or inconclusive. MHS will give the ship command the final clearance **after** confirming two negative results **and** 7 days of SIP. The crew will be cleared by ship's command to move aboard thereafter.
10. Comply with all illness prevention measures identified in the *COVID-19 Outbreak Management Plan* for OMAO Ships, which requires wearing an authorized face covering over the nose and mouth at all times and social distancing of 6 feet or more when possible.
11. Obtain daily screening from the shipboard MPIC or MO at the beginning of each workday after departure during sailing.

Instructions for Medical Clearance Coordinators

No change, use the same criteria as Phase II/III

Instructions for Marine Health Services Medical Officers

The MHS MO will:

1. Review positive assessments, *COVID-19 Reporting Risk Assessment* or positive *COVID-19 Symptom Screening Assessments*, and offer further guidance.
2. Send an email notification to the chief scientist regarding all science party members' medical clearance recommendations regarding reporting to the embarkation location to begin SIP as needed.
3. Contact scientists who reported symptoms to their MCC during the SIP. Send an email notification to the ship's command and chief scientist when the decision has been made to deny medical clearance for a scientist scheduled to report to the ship.

4. When the MCC notifies the assigned MHS Medical Officer of a positive lab for a scientist in SIP, the MHS will inform the chief scientist/scientists of the scientist's revoked clearance to sail. The MHS will offer further guidance as needed.
5. MHS gives the final clearance to move aboard.

Instructions for MPICs and Designated Screeners aboard ships during Phase IV, V, VI

MPICs and screeners aboard ships will:

No change, use the same criteria as Phase II/III

OMAO SHIP COVID MITIGATION PHASES CHART

	PRE-TRAVEL SCREENING	TRAVEL TO SHIP LOCATION	PHASE I	PHASE II	PHASE III	PHASE IV	PHASE V	PHASE VI
Activity Based Phases	Risk Mitigation and Protective Measures	Risk Mitigation and Protective Measures	Protection of Life & Property – <i>Ship is as close to “cold” as possible</i>	Restore Critical Systems Local Personnel, Support, Resources	Restore Critical Systems Local & Remote Personnel, Support, Resources	Restore Critical & Mission Systems Local & Remote Personnel, Support, Resources	Limited Underway	Science Projects Underway
Phase Description	NOAA COVID-19 Reporting Risk Assessment , Questionnaire designed to reduce chances of COVID-19 coming aboard a NOAA vessel by denying clearance due to high risk activity. If more than 5 days have passed since a ship's symptom screening was performed a new RRA is needed.	Immediately following approval for PRE-TRAVEL SCREENING (using the NOAA COVID-19 Reporting Risk Assessment), all personnel are required to complete 5 days minimum SIP before access to a NOAA vessel is authorized if they engaged in high-risk activity. <i>*Also includes specific travel instructions*</i>	No one living aboard the ships. Minimum number of essential ship personnel reporting to the ships for resource protection and to maintain critical systems.	No one living aboard the ships. Minimum number of local essential ship personnel reporting to the ships to restore and certify operational readiness systems. Local contractors, inspect or scientists may be medically cleared to report to the ship.	No one living aboard the ships. Minimum number of essential ship personnel reporting to the ships. Remote essential contractors, scientists, and inspectors may be approved to travel to the ships to restore, maintain, and certify operational readiness systems.	All contract work complete. Ship has been sanitized per OMAO policy. Ship personnel move aboard after: 1. Completed 7 full days of local SIP and 2. Have two negative COVID-19 test results (<i>sample taken on day 4 or 5 of SIP and</i> 3. Have met all normal medical requirements. (<i>NHSQs, physicals ex.</i>)	Ship underway for sea trials and operational readiness drills with crew members and essential contractors and inspectors that have completed the Phase IV screening requirements.	Scientists move aboard and ships underway for scheduled cruises. Ship limits interactions with shore during inports for up to 45 days to maintain a COVID free space. New crew and scientists must have completed all phase IV requirements and obtain medical clearance before boarding during inport periods.

CITED DOCUMENTS

(May be found in NOAA's Document Management System (DMS))

- *COVID-19 Daily Symptom Screening Log* (A shared google document).
- *COVID-19 Isolation Surveillance Form*
- *COVID-19 Medical Phone Roster*
- *COVID-19 Outbreak Management Plan*
- *COVID-19 Reporting Risk Assessment (RRA)*
- *COVID-19 Symptom Screening Assessment* (This form is for the ship screener's guidance only and does not need to be completed).
- *MOC COVID-19 Decision Matrix*
- *OMAO Return to Work Guidance* (from OHS)

GLOSSARY

1. **Asymptomatic:** Showing no symptoms of disease.
2. **Close Contact:** Individuals identified by MHS as being within approximately 6 feet (2 meters) of a COVID-19 case for a prolonged period of time (>15 minutes over the course of 24hrs); **irrespective of cloth/cotton mask use.**
3. **Contact Tracing:** is used to prevent the spread of infectious disease. In general, contact tracing involves identifying people who have an infectious disease (cases) and people who they came in contact with (contacts) and working with them to interrupt disease spread. This includes asking people with COVID-19 to isolate and their contacts to quarantine at home voluntarily.
4. **Crew member:** Wage Mariners, Shore Support, NOAA Corps Officers, USPHS Officers
5. **Isolation:** Separation of an ill person who has a communicable disease (e.g., COVID-19 patient) from those who are healthy. Isolation prevents transmission of infection to others and also allows for the focused delivery of specialized health care to ill persons.
6. **MCC:** Medical Clearance Coordinator
7. **MHS:** Marine Health Services
8. **MO:** Medical Officer
9. **Non crewmembers:** non OMAO staff, including; scientists, volunteers, contractors, inspectors, teachers, vendors and anyone else that isn't a permanent or temporary crewmember.
10. **Personal protective equipment (PPE):** Specialized clothing and equipment designed to create a barrier against health and safety hazards; examples include goggles, face shields, gloves, and respirators.
11. **Quarantine:** Separation or restriction of activities of well persons who are not ill but who are believed to have been exposed to a communicable disease and are therefore at high risk of becoming infected. In the context of SARS, quarantine refers to a combined approach to managing contacts, which consists of active monitoring plus activity restrictions.
12. **RRA:** Reporting Risk Assessment
13. **RTW:** Return to Work
14. **SARS-CoV-2:** The name of the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19 disease.
15. **Self-Monitor:** Monitor for any symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
16. **SIP:** Shelter in Place, see criteria in phase I.
17. **Symptomatic:** Showing symptoms of disease. The most common symptoms of COVID-19 include: cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, and new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea.