

COVID-19 CADTH REFERENCE LIST

Contact Tracing for Potential Exposure to SARS-CoV-2 Virus: Guidelines

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Research Question

What are the evidence-based guidelines regarding contact tracing for people who have been in contact with a person with a suspected or confirmed diagnosis of coronavirus disease (COVID-19)?

Key Findings

No evidence-based guidelines were identified regarding contact tracing for people who have been in contact with a person with a suspected or confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19.

Methods

A limited literature search was conducted by an information specialist on key resources including PubMed, the Cochrane Library, the University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, the websites of Canadian and major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused internet search. The search strategy was comprised of both controlled vocabulary, such as the National Library of Medicine’s MeSH (Medical Subject Headings), and keywords. The main search concepts were contact tracing and COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses. Search filters were applied to limit retrieval to health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, or network meta-analyses, and guidelines. The search was also limited to English language documents published between Jan 1, 2015 and Apr 22, 2020. Internet links were provided, where available.

Selection Criteria

One reviewer screened citations and selected studies based on the inclusion criteria presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Selection Criteria

Population	People who have potentially been exposed to a person with confirmed or suspected coronavirus disease (COVID-19)
Intervention	Contact tracing (also known as contact investigation or follow-up) for coronavirus disease (COVID-19)
Comparator	Not applicable
Outcomes	Recommendations regarding how to conduct contact tracing for COVID-19 (e.g., who should be followed up with, when the follow should occur, how the testing should be conducted, what information should be communicated)
Study Designs	Health technology assessments, systematic reviews and evidence-based guidelines

Results

Rapid Response reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports with recommendations and systematic reviews of guidelines are presented first. These are followed by evidence-based guidelines.

No evidence-based guidelines were identified regarding contact tracing for people who have been in contact with a person suspected or confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19.

Additionally, no relevant health technology assessments or systematic reviews were identified.

References of potential interest are provided in the appendix.

Overall Summary of Findings

No evidence-based guidelines were identified regarding contact tracing for people who have been in contact with a person suspected or confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19; therefore, no summary can be provided.

References Summarized

Health Technology Assessments

No literature identified.

Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses

No literature identified.

Guidelines and Recommendations

No literature identified.

Appendix — Further Information

Previous CADTH Reports

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Clinical Practice Guideline — Methodology Not Specified

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Preprints are reports that have not been formally published or peer-reviewed. They should not be relied on to guide clinical practice or health-related behavior.

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