

NFL/NFLPA COVID-19

CONTACT TRACING TECHNOLOGY & PROTOCOL



In preparation for the 2020 season, the NFL and NFLPA worked together to develop a comprehensive set of health and safety protocols to mitigate risk of COVID-19 for everyone in the team environment. Technology is helping to advance a key component of those efforts – contact tracing – by modernizing the data collection process for a more efficient, accurate and safe system.

CONTACT TRACING OVERVIEW

The league is using a new proximity recording device to help perform contact tracing and mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

Players and personnel wear the lightweight, mandatory devices when at the club facility, during practices, and during team travel. Players also have them built into their equipment for use on-field in practice and games.

The device collects data about individuals' proximity to each other in order to perform quick and accurate contact tracing when an individual is symptomatic or tests positive for COVID-19.



TIER DESIGNATIONS

Keeping players protected from the virus is the number one priority of the NFL and NFLPA's joint protocols. Not all individuals require the same level of access, therefore all club personnel have been assigned a tier designation.

- » **Tier 1:** Players and essential football personnel whose job function requires direct access to players on a regular basis.
- » **Tier 2:** Essential personnel who may need to be in close proximity to players and other Tier 1 Individuals and who may need to access Restricted Areas periodically.
- » **Tier 3:** Individuals who do not require close proximity to Tier 1 individuals, but perform essential facility, stadium or event services.



At check-in each morning, individuals from all tiers receive a proximity recording device. Devices are worn on a wristband or on a lanyard. Players also have the devices built into their equipment for use on-field in practice and games.



Throughout the day:

- » Devices collect information about individual's proximity to each other – by distance and length of time – to be used for contact tracing later, as needed.
- » The device also notifies users with lights and sound if they are too close to one another or too close to individuals from other tiers. For example, if a Tier 3 staff member comes too close to a Tier 1 or Tier 2 individual, a red warning signal appears on the device to alert them to move away. After five seconds, the device emits an audible alarm.



At the end of the day, the device is turned back in to be disinfected, downloaded and recharged.



Data from the devices is analyzed for contact tracing purposes.

- » Data analysis will identify individuals who had a “close contact” with a symptomatic or COVID-19 positive individual. “Close contact” is defined below.
- » Employees and players who had a close contact with a COVID-19 symptomatic or COVID-19 positive individual will enter the “Contact Tracing Protocol,” as outlined below.



These devices will help the league identify, isolate and test anyone that was in close contact with an infected individual.



Devices don't work like a GPS – location data is never recorded. Each device is also registered as a unique device ID, not to a user's name, to ensure that no personal data is recorded. Data from the devices is analyzed for contact tracing purposes by IQVIA, an independent third-party company that works with the NFL on player health and safety-related data.



Contact tracing – and the league's use of proximity recording devices to perform that tracing – is just one component of the comprehensive effort to mitigate risk. Other aspects of this effort include the overhaul of club facilities to accommodate physical distancing, around-the-clock cleaning and disinfection, a robust testing and screening program, and behavior-based changes, like virtual meetings, mask-wearing and avoiding large gatherings.



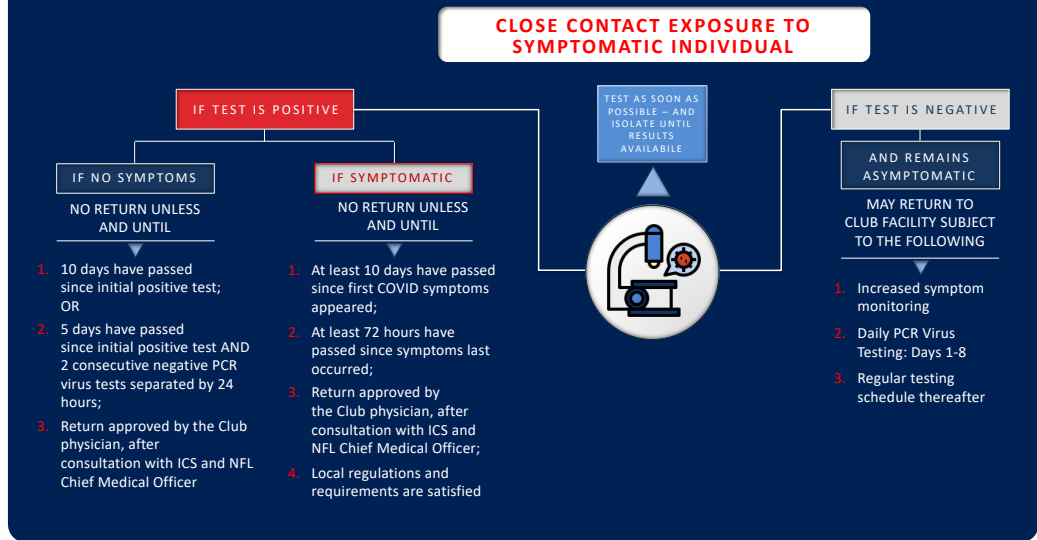
Proximity recording devices, also known as SafeTags, are designed by KINEXON.



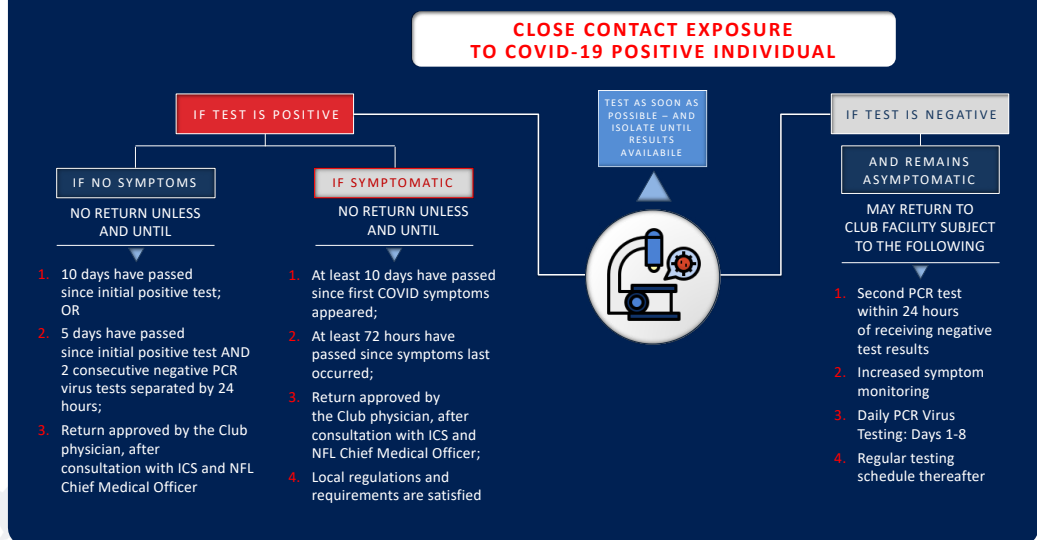
WHAT IS A “CLOSE CONTACT”?

- » Living in the same household;
- » Being within six feet of someone for about 15 minutes;
- » Having direct contact with secretions from a person infected with COVID-19 (e.g., being coughed on);
- » Having direct physical contact with an infected individual during practice, a game or team travel; or
- » Handling uniforms, equipment or a shared object used by an infected individual.
- » Close contact does not include brief interactions, such as walking past someone.

What happens after a “close contact” with a COVID-19 symptomatic individual?



What happens after a “close contact” with a COVID-19 positive Individual?



“Contact tracing is an important part of any strategy to reduce the spread of COVID-19, and the NFL’s strategy is no exception. The NFL’s prevention protocols contain many layers and multiple interventions, but they won’t reduce the risk of COVID-19 to zero. If and when an infection occurs, prompt and detailed contact tracing can identify additional personnel who may have been exposed and determine if additional testing or quarantine is required.”