



OCIMF COVID-19 Update Bulletin #10 – Guidance for OCIMF inspectors reporting exposure to COVID-19, 6 August 2020

Since the outbreak of COVID-19, OCIMF has issued several [updates](#) directed at OCIMF inspectors to guide their actions and behaviours when carrying out SIRE/OVID programme inspections.

The World Health Organization (WHO) considers contact tracing and self-isolation to be essential tools for controlling infectious disease outbreaks. The reporting requirements published by OCIMF are aligned with the WHO to allow all OCIMF Programme Participants to implement their own policies to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

There have been several recent incidents where inspectors have not used the published guidance to report their potential exposure to COVID-19. The health and safety of all those involved in the inspection process are of utmost importance to OCIMF. Therefore, all inspectors are strongly advised to refresh their knowledge and follow the OCIMF guidance on conducting SIRE/OVID inspections during COVID-19.

These guidelines are published to protect the health of OCIMF inspectors and all members of the marine industry. Adherence is the professional responsibility of all OCIMF inspectors. Failure to follow the guidance may result in disciplinary action being taken by OCIMF against an inspector.

OCIMF inspectors must:

- Follow all national, regional and local reporting requirements for COVID-19 exposure or infection.
- Follow the national and local directives regarding self-isolation, where applicable.
- Notify OCIMF and the Submitting Company of any COVID-19 potential exposure occurring within 14 days before an inspection.
- Notify OCIMF and the Submitting Company of any COVID-19 diagnosed infection occurring within 14 days before or after an inspection.
- Cease all inspection activity upon a positive diagnosis of COVID-19 until such time that they are permitted to return to work by national, regional or local government regulations in force in their home location and the location of any intended future inspections.
- Cease all inspection activity after exposure to an individual with suspected COVID-19 until 14 days have elapsed since exposure and a negative COVID-19 test result confirms no infection.
- Notify OCIMF and the Submitting Company if they are exposed to an individual with suspected COVID-19 during a programme inspection.
- Make any notification concerning exposure to, or diagnosis of, COVID-19 to the national, regional and local authorities where they live and to jurisdictions where they have transited, travelled or carried out inspections.

