Who is a contact?
A contact is a person that is involved in any of the following:

1. Being within 1 metre of a COVID-19 case for >15 minutes
2. Direct physical contact with a COVID-19 case
3. Providing direct care for patients with COVID-19 disease without using proper personal protective equipment (PPE);
4. Passenger in close proximity (within 1 meter) of a conveyance with a symptomatic person

Contacts are classified in two categories:
A. High risk contact
B. Low risk contact

A. Definition of High risk contacts:
1. Touched body fluids of the patient (respiratory tract secretions, blood, vomit, saliva, urine, faeces)
2. Had direct physical contact with the body of the patient including physical examination without PPE.
3. Touched or cleaned the linens, clothes, or dishes of the patient
4. Lives in the same household as the patient
5. Anyone in close proximity (within 1 meter) of the confirmed case without precautions
6. Passenger in close proximity (within 1 meter) of a conveyance with a symptomatic person who later tested positive for COVID-19 for more than 6 hour

B. Definition of Low risk contacts:
1. Shared the same space (same class for school/worked in same room/similar) and not having a high-risk exposure to confirmed case of COVID-19.
2. Travelled in same environment (bus/train/flight/any mode of transit) but not having a high-risk exposure.

Contact Tracing Time Windows (As per GoI & WHO)
I. Symptomatic
   • 2 days before symptoms to admission / isolation or up to max. 14 days
II. Asymptomatic
   • 2 days before swab (Sample taken date) to admission / isolation or up to max. 14 days
Pictorial understanding of Contact tracing:

I. Symptomatic

Contact tracing flow - Symptomatic

II. Asymptomatic

Contact tracing flow - Asymptomatic/ No Symptoms

1. All symptomatic (ILI symptoms) individuals with history of international travel in the last 14 days.
2. All symptomatic (ILI symptoms) contacts of laboratory confirmed cases.
3. All symptomatic (ILI symptoms) health care workers / frontline workers involved in containment and mitigation of COVID19.
4. All patients of Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI).
5. Asymptomatic direct and high-risk contacts of a confirmed case to be tested once between day 5 and day 10 of coming into contact.
6. All symptomatic ILI within hotspots/containment zones.
7. All hospitalised patients who develop ILI symptoms.
8. All symptomatic ILI among returnees and migrants within 7 days of illness.
9. No emergency procedure (including deliveries) should be delayed for lack of test. However, sample can be sent for testing if indicated as above (1-8), simultaneously.

When to take sample of suspected contacts of COVID-19:

I. Symptomatic contacts:
   a. As per ICMR testing criteria no. 2, all symptomatic contact’s sampling must be done either same day or next day of contact tracing

II. Asymptomatic direct and High risk contacts:
   a. As per ICMR testing criteria no. 5, all contacts must be tested once between 5th day to 10th day of coming in contact with confirm COVID-19 case
   b. Direct & high risk contact means- (As mentioned on page one)
      i. Multiple exposure:
         1. Household contacts
         2. Office colleagues
         • Date of exposure is 2 days before onset of symptoms
      ii. Single exposure:
         1. Travel colleagues
         2. Meeting colleagues
         3. Shop keeper etc
         • Day of meeting exposure as day 1,
Isolate / Admit the confirmed COVID-19 case and contact tracing from **23 May till 2 June**

**Classification in High risk and Low risk contacts**

- **Symptomatic** contacts (with ILI symptoms) weather **high or Low risk**
  - Take sample immediately / next day **2 June**
  - Date of first exposure will be 2 days before onset of symptoms for confirm COVID-19 case for example **25 May**
  - Take one time sample between **30 May to 4 June**

- **Asymptomatic high-risk** contacts only
  - Enquire about date of exposure with confirmed COVID-19 case for example **28 May**
  - Take one time sample between **2 June to 7 June**

- **Multiple exposure** high risk contacts:
  - d. Household contacts
  - e. Office colleagues

- **Single exposure** high risk contacts:
  - a. Travel colleagues
  - b. Meeting colleagues
  - c. Shop keeper etc