



PROJECT **FIRSTLINE** JOURNAL CLUB

Project Firstline's curated journal club series draws on published, open access research examining important infection control topics for the healthcare workforce. Use the discussion questions below or create your own. Please check [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for the latest data and recommendations on infection control topics affecting the healthcare workforce.



Article:

[Transmission of COVID-19 to Health Care Personnel During Exposures to a Hospitalized Patient — Solano County, California, February 2020](#)

The first U.S. case of community-acquired COVID-19 was confirmed in a patient hospitalized in Solano County, California, in February 2020. Transmission-Based Precautions were not in use before the patient's positive test for SARS-CoV-2, therefore, healthcare workers (HCWs) did not wear personal protective equipment (PPE) recommended for COVID-19 patient care during contact with the patient. Of the 121 HCWs who were exposed to the patient with unrecognized COVID-19, three had unprotected patient contact and tested positive for COVID-19 after contact with the patient.



Discussion:

Understanding and analyzing the article:

- What is the purpose of this article? If provided, identify the main research questions and hypotheses.
- Who are the authors and what are their affiliations (who they work for or who funded the research) and credentials (degrees or professional experience)?
- Do any of the authors have affiliations that could influence the outcome of the study due to a conflict of interest?
- When was the article published, and is the information still timely and relevant to the topic? Why or why not?
- What background information is important to understanding this topic?
- What study design or research methods were used?
- What were the main findings of the paper and how do the authors support their interpretation of the findings?
- What are the strengths and limitations of this article?
- What main conclusions and calls to action are presented?

Continue the discussion:

- CDC has reported that healthcare workers might be at risk for getting infections during newly identified disease outbreaks, particularly before we fully understand how the disease spreads. According to the article, which activities done by healthcare workers were significantly associated with developing laboratory-confirmed COVID-19? What does this tell us about these activities?



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