

### WHAT IS TEMPERATURE MONITORING?

- Temperature monitoring is used to determine if someone has an elevated body temperature ( $\geq 100.4$ ) prior to entering a building or workplace.
- An elevated temperature, also known as a fever, indicates that you may be sick, and is a known symptom of COVID-19.
- Temperature monitoring will not tell you if someone has COVID-19; it's also common for an infected person to have a normal temperature, or to even have no symptoms at all.

### SHOULD I TEMPERATURE MONITOR MY STAFF?

- As an employer, requiring or encouraging temperature monitoring is not recommended unless your state mandates it. Check your state & local government websites in the Solutions Library to determine if you are required to conduct temperature monitoring.
- Temperature monitoring is not an effective standalone tool against viral spread.
- The quality of the temperature measuring device is also important. Many devices, especially non-contact devices, do not accurately reflect body temperature or fever.
  - For example, a non-contact thermometer that measures skin temperature rather than body temperature could show misleading results when the temperature outside is particularly hot or cold
- While temperature monitoring can tell you that your employees are free from fever at a moment in time, it is not effective as a stand-alone tool to prevent or slow the spread of COVID-19. For these reasons, temperature monitoring does not appear to have a large return on investment due to the effort required by employers to implement it.

### HOW SHOULD I IMPLEMENT?

#### For all operations

- Stress to your staff members that if they develop any signs of illness, they should seek medical advice and not report to work.
- Even if staff members do not show a fever or other symptoms, all employees should wear a facial covering, follow hand hygiene protocols, and practice social distancing in the workplace at all times. Some employers have chosen to provide thermometers to all employees to encourage temperature checking at home before coming into work.

#### For Operations that choose to monitor temperatures

- Develop a policy and procedure for temperature monitoring (ensure safety, privacy, and legal issues are considered)
- Educate your staff on why you are performing temperature monitoring, and how you will be doing it.
- Apply the procedure thoroughly & consistently; inconsistent application will damage the effort.