PATIENT & STAFF CONTACT TRACING:

STEPS TO AN ACTIVE INFECTION SURVEILLANCE STRATEGY

Before COVID-19, many health systems did not prioritize the active monitoring of the in-house spread of infectious disease. Traditional, manual tracing processes only generate a limited picture of patient flow patterns and fail to drive preventive workflow modifications. With COVID-19 highlighting the urgent need for better patient tracing, it is now critical that organizations adopt capable patient-and-staff-tracing processes.





Preparation

Provides baseline information about the natural flow of patients through a hospital setting.



Growth

Identifies infected patient volume and gives insights into any emerging irregular patient flow patterns.



Infection Surge

Tracing allows incident command centers to develop and revise patient flow while putting other services (e.g., elective procedures) on hold.



Recovery

As infection incidence declines, health systems need to observe when patient flow patterns are returning to their natural cadence and make changes to avoid exposing uninfected individuals to the virus.