



Fitwel Viral Response Module

The COVID-19 pandemic has made prioritizing health within buildings more important than ever. With this in mind, we have applied the Fitwel Viral Response Module (VRM) to mitigate contagious disease transmission and safeguard occupant health and well-being across our portfolio.

Why Fitwel?

- Scientific Rigor. Through innovative collaboration with global health experts and trusted industry advisors, the Fitwel VRM identifies strategies that align with the best science available. It is the only standard on the market that establishes minimum requirements for mitigating viral transmission.
- Long-term Relevance. While the Fitwel VRM was initially developed in response to COVID-19, its datadata driven strategies support more resilient properties that are prepared for future contagious disease outbreaks ranging from a novel coronavirus, to viruses like influenza A and B, which cause seasonal flu.
- A Trusted, Third-party Certifier. Fitwel is the world's leading healthy building certification committed to building health for all.® Fitwel's rigorous third-party review process takes away any guess-work—so you know this building is meeting the very highest standards for viral mitigation.



Here's What to Expect:

Every building with the Fitwel Viral Response seal has implemented ALL required strategies shown below AND a selection of additional supporting strategies designed to enhance indoor environments, encourage behavior change, and build occupant trust.

Enhancing Indoor Environments



Enhanced Indoor Air Quality Policy. Our IAQ policy adheres to Fitwel's rigorous standards for source control, ventilation rates, filtration, and humidity.



Enhanced Cleaning, Disinfecting, and Maintenance Policy.

High-touch surfaces and congregate spaces receive priority attention, in accordance with Fitwel's standards for areas of focus, cleaning frequency, and use of disinfectants.

For diseases such as influenza, having good ventilation can be as impactful as vaccinating 50 - 60% of the population. [1]

Encouraging Behavioral Change



Face Covering Protocol. Education and training practices will clarify when, where, and for whom face coverings are required.



Hand Hygiene Protocol. Hand hygiene stations adhere to Fitwel's rigorous standards for placement, design, cleaning and management.



Health Promotion Signage Protocol. Informational pointof-decision signs have been installed to prompt healthier behaviors, so that everyone can contribute to reducing the spread of contagious diseases. Handwashing rates increased from 45% to 53% for males and from 50% to 76% for females when handwashing signs were placed on mirrors. [2]

Building Occupant Trust



Contagious Disease Outbreak Preparedness Protocol. We have developed detailed preparations to protect occupants against a viral outbreak, addressing training, resources, personnel roles, and work support procedures.



Communication Protocol. We are committed to keeping you informed of new policies in order to enhance transparency, foster trust, and strengthen tenant relationships.

Evidence suggests the increased likelihood of pandemics due to global travel and integration, urbanization, and exploitation of natural resources. [3]



What This Means for Our Tenants:

You and your employees can return to work with confidence, knowing that Fitwel Viral Response strategies are in place to safeguard your health and well-being.

Healthy buildings have been shown to improve employee satisfaction and yield higher overall productivity ^[4], and we are proud to be meeting Fitwel's rigorous standards to ensure the healthiest possible work environment.



^[1] Smieszek, T., Lazzari, G., & Salathé, M. (2019). Assessing the Dynamics and Control of Droplet- and Aerosol-Transmitted Influenza Using an Indoor Positioning System. Scientific Reports, 9(1).

^[2] Botta, R. A., et al. (2008). Using a relevant threat, EPPM and interpersonal communication to change hand-washing behaviors on campus. Journal of Communication in Healthcare, 1(4), 373–381. https://doi.org/10.1179/cih.2008.1.4.373

^[3] Madhav N, Oppenheim B, Gallivan M, et al. Pandemics: Risks, Impacts, and Mitigation. In: Jamison DT, Gelband H, Horton S, et al., editors. Disease Control Priorities: Improving Health and Reducing Poverty. 3rd edition. Washington (DC): The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development / The World Bank; 2017 Nov 27. Chapter 17. Available from: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK525302/

^[4] CBRE. (2016). Wellness in the workplace: Unlocking future performance. Retrieved from https://www.cbre.co.uk/-/media/cbre/countryunitedkingdom/documents/cbre101211-wellness-in-the-workplace final.pdf