

RELEASING COVID-19 CASES AND CONTACTS FROM ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE

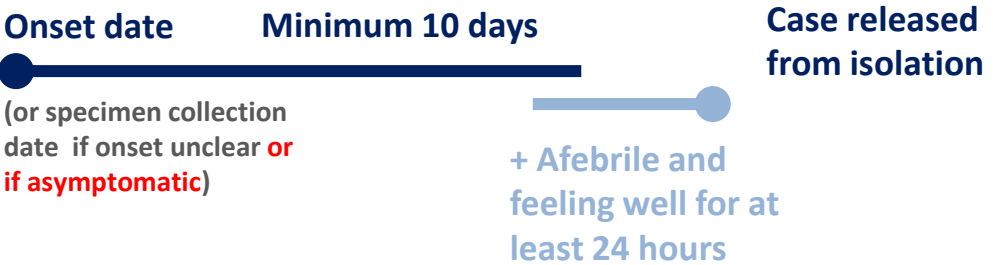


CASES

Must be isolated for a minimum of 10 days* after symptom onset and can be released after afebrile (without fever-reducing medication) for at least 24 hours and improvement of other symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath)

OR

Has 2 negative COVID-19 tests in a row, with testing done at least 24 hours apart (**A test-based strategy is no longer recommended in the majority of cases. Consult with Infectious Disease MD.**)



Note: Lingering cough should not prevent a case from being released from isolation.

*A limited number of persons with severe illness may produce replication-competent virus beyond 10 days; this may warrant extending duration of isolation and precautions for up to 20 days after symptom onset. Consider consultation with infection control experts.

CLOSE CONTACTS¹

Must be quarantined for 14 days after the last/most recent contact with the case when the case was infectious.

If a close contact develops symptoms, they should follow isolation rules for cases above.

Household Contacts:

Household contacts with separate living quarters between case and contacts: quarantine for 14 days after last exposure to case.

LTC residents or Household Contacts that share a room/living quarters (i.e. have ongoing contact with or exposure to the case): quarantine during contact and for 14 days after case is released from isolation.



¹ For COVID-19, a close contact is defined as any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.
Guidance for Healthcare Worker Contacts : <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/return-to-work.html>
Guidance for Critical Workers in Essential Infrastructure: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/critical-workers/implementing-safety-practices.html>
References: Isolation: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/duration-isolation.html>
Quarantine: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>