

RELEASING CASES AND CONTACTS FROM ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE

CASES

<u>Must</u> be isolated for a <u>minimum</u> of 10 days after onset and can be released after they are without fever for 24 hours (without fever-reducing medication) and show improvement in symptoms. Some severely ill patients will need to be isolated for at least 20 days.

Asymptomatic cases must be isolated through 10 days after their specimen collection date.

<u>Notes</u>:

- Lingering cough should not prevent a case from being released from isolation.
- If a follow-up PCR test is positive, cases do <u>not</u> need to re-enter isolation as long as they have completed the minimum 10-day isolation and had symptom resolution for a minimum of 24 hours.
- If a case <u>has been released</u> from isolation and symptoms return, individuals do <u>not</u> need to re-enter isolation as long as they have completed the minimum 10-day isolation and had symptom resolution for a minimum of 24 hours.



- A case that is afebrile and experiencing an improvement in symptoms on day 2 (and continues to do so) can be released after completing isolation through 10 days after symptom onset.
- A case is afebrile on day 2, but symptoms return on day 6. The case is afebrile and experiencing an improvement in symptoms on day 12 and continues to do so for 24 hours. They can be released from isolation 13 days after symptom onset.
- An asymptomatic case that does not develop symptoms during the 10-day isolation can be released from isolation 11 days after specimen collection.

NON-HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS

<u>Must</u> be quarantined through 14 days after the date of last exposure* to the case, regardless of whether the case was symptomatic.

*Exposure means contact with a case during the time period **beginning two days prior to case's symptom onset** (or specimen collection date if case is asymptomatic) through the end of the case's isolation period.



Department of Health

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HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS

A household contact is an individual who shares any living spaces with a case. This includes bedrooms, bathrooms, living rooms, kitchens, etc.

Household contacts must be quarantined through 14 days after the case has completed their (minimum) 10-day isolation period (whether the case is symptomatic or not)*.

If a household contact develops symptoms of COVID-19, they become a case. They should begin isolation as a case and consider getting tested.

*If the case can separate from household members for their entire isolation, household members may be treated as non-household contacts and begin quarantine after their last close contact with the case. To be considered a non-household contact:

- The case must never be in the same room as household members. ٠
- The case cannot share plates, cups, dishes or phones with others. •
- The case should have their own bathroom. If that isn't possible, the household must conduct daily cleaning.

Notes:

- Household contacts will often need to remain at home longer than the initial case.
- If a case has been released from isolation and symptoms return, household contacts do not need to restart the 14-day period as long as the case has completed the minimum 10-day isolation and had symptom resolution for a minimum of 24 hours.



EXAMPLES

- A case is afebrile and experiencing an improvement in symptoms 2 days after symptom onset and continues to do so for 24 hours. The household contact must quarantine during the case's 10-day isolation period and must remain quarantined through 14 days after the end of the case's isolation (24 days total). The household contact can be released from quarantine on day 25 after the case's symptom onset.
- A case is asymptomatic. The household contact must quarantine during the case's 10-day isolation period and must remain guarantined through 14 days after the end of the case's isolation (24 days total). The household contact can be released from quarantine on day 25 after the case's specimen collection date.
- ٠ A case is afebrile and experiencing an improvement in symptoms 12 days after symptom onset and continues to do so for 24 hours (day 13). The household contact must quarantine during the case's 13-day isolation period and must remain guarantined through 14 days after the case's isolation period ends (27 days total). The household contact can be released from quarantine on day 28 day after the case's symptom onset.
- A case is able to isolate within the home. The household contact has no close contact with the case since they ٠ isolated. The household contact must quarantine through 14 days after last contact with the case. The household contact can be released from guarantine on day 15 after last contact with the case.
- A household contact develops cough and fever during guarantine. They must now begin isolation as a case.

Anyone who has had close contact with someone with COVID-19 and who meets the following criteria does **NOT** need to quarantine.

- Has COVID-19 illness within the previous 3 months and
- Has recovered and
- Remains without COVID-19 symptoms (for example, cough, shortness of breath)