

RELEASING COVID-19 CASES AND CONTACTS FROM ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE



CASES

Must be isolated for a minimum of 7 days after symptom onset and can be released after afebrile and feeling well (without fever-reducing medication) for at least 72 hours.

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

Examples:

- A case that is well on day 3 and afebrile and feeling well for 72 hours must remain isolated until day 7.
- A case that is still symptomatic on day 7, and symptoms last until day 12, cannot be released until day 15.



CLOSE CONTACTS¹

Must be quarantined for 14 days after the last/most recent contact with the case when the case was infectious².

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 Close contacts include household contacts, intimate contacts, or contacts within 6 ft for 10 minutes or longer
Guidance for Healthcare Worker Contacts : <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assesment-hcp.html>
Guidance for Critical Workers in Essential Infrastructure: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/critical-workers/implementing-safety-practices.html>

² Refer to case guidance above to determine when case is no longer considered infectious. Note that contact exposure timeframe would include the 48 hours prior to the case's symptom onset or positive test collection date, if applicable.