COVID-19 Cases, Person Under Investigation, or Close Contacts How Long Do We Isolate?

8/13/2020
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Close Contact versus COVID Case versus PUI

Different set of rules!

• **Close contact** = being within 6 ft of an infected person for more than 15 minutes starting from 2 days of symptom onset (or if asymptomatic persons, 2 days prior to positive test specimen) until the time the patient is isolated, OR any exposure during an aerosol generating procedure

• **COVID case** = has had a positive pcr test (documented COVID case)

• **Person under investigation (PUI)** = person with concerning symptoms (and may have exposure to a person with COVID). These persons are awaiting pcr test results, and if positive are a COVID case. If test is negative they are treated as a close contact

Community and Close Contact

Defined as being within 6 ft of an infected person for more than 15 minutes starting from 2 days of symptom onset (or if asymptomatic persons, 2 days prior to positive test specimen) until the time the patient is isolated, OR any contact with an infected person during an aerosolized procedure without appropriate PPE.

- MUST be quarantined for 14 days after the last/most recent contact with the case when the case was infectious
- CANNOT test out of quarantine
- If close contact develops symptoms, they should refer to the COVID case algorithms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact Scenario</th>
<th>Quarantine Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Had close contact but will not have further contact</td>
<td>14 days from the date of last contact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Had close contact, lives with the case but can avoid</td>
<td>14 days from when the person with COVID began home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>further close contact</td>
<td>isolation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under quarantine and additional close contact with</td>
<td>Restart quarantine from last close COVID contact.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>someone else who has COVID</td>
<td>Any new close contact restarts quarantine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lives with someone with COVID and cannot avoid</td>
<td>14 days from the date the COVID infected person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>continued close contact</td>
<td>they live with clears isolation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adapted from www.cdc.gov\coronavirus\2019-ncov\hcp\return-to-work.html and IDPH Webinar 7/22/20

Health Care Workers and Close Contact

Different Rules Apply!

- 14 day quarantine applies if close exposure AND:
  - HCP not wearing a respirator or facemask
  - HCP not wearing eye protection if the person with COVID-19 was not wearing a cloth face covering or facemask
  - HCP not wearing all recommended PPE (i.e., gown, gloves, eye protection, respirator) while performing an aerosol-generating procedure
- No work restriction if above does not apply
  - Must follow all recommended infection prevention and control practices, including wearing a facemask for source control while at work
  - For both, must monitor for fever/symptoms, not report to work if ill, and immediately self-isolate / seek medical attention if have fever/symptoms

Not A Close Contact

• Defined as more than 6 feet, or less than 15 minutes with a COVID case, without an aerosolized procedure being done

• Also secondary contact (in contact with someone who had contact with a COVID patient)

• Should monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID, wear a mask / use appropriate PPE to the situation, but do not need to isolate.


COVID Cases

How Long Do I Isolate

• Depends on Symptom severity
  • Mild to moderate – generally 10 days, see following algorithms
  • Severe to critical – generally 20 days, see following algorithms

• Depends on Immunocompromised status
  • Generally 20 days – see following criteria

COVID Positive – How Long Do I Isolate If Not Severely Immunocompromised

Symptomatic

Severe or Critical Illness*

YES

>20 days since symptom onset &
>24 hrs afebrile off antipyretics & symptoms improved

Discontinue isolation

NO

>10 days since symptom onset &
>24 hrs afebrile off antipyretics & symptoms improved

Discontinue isolation

10 days since 1st positive test

(If develops symptoms at any time, refer back to symptomatic pathway)

YES

Discontinue isolation

NO

Continue isolation

*Severe/Critical Disease: Persons with respiratory frequency >30 breaths per minute, SpO2 <94% on room air (or, for patients with chronic hypoxemia, a decrease from baseline of >3%), ratio of arterial partial pressure of oxygen to fraction of inspired oxygen (PaO2/FiO2) <300 mmHg, or lung infiltrates >50% OR persons with respiratory failure, septic shock, and/or multiple organ dysfunction

CDC Guidance on “Severe Immunocompromised”

• Classic definition (always cause a higher degree of immunocompromise)
  • chemotherapy for cancer
  • untreated HIV infection with CD4 T lymphocyte count < 200
  • combined primary immunodeficiency disorder
  • prednisone >20mg/day for more than 14 days, may cause a higher degree of immunocompromise and inform decisions regarding the duration of Transmission-Based Precautions.

• Other factors do not clearly affect decisions about duration of Transmission Based Precautions (TBP) which pose a much lower risk of immunocompromised, such advanced age, diabetes mellitus, or end-stage renal disease. Ultimately, the degree of immunocompromise for the patient is determined by the treating provider, and preventive actions are tailored to each individual and situation.
COVID Positive- How Long Do I Isolate If Severely Immunocompromised*

- Symptomatic
  - Yes: >20 days since symptom onset & >24 hrs afebrile off antipyretics & symptoms improved
  - No: 20 days since 1st positive test

  - Yes: Discontinue isolation
  - No: Continue isolation

*Some conditions, such as being on chemotherapy for cancer, untreated HIV infection with CD4 T lymphocyte count < 200, combined primary immunodeficiency disorder, and receipt of prednisone >20mg/day for more than 14 days, may cause a higher degree of immunocompromised and inform decisions regarding the duration of Transmission-Based Precautions. Ultimately, the degree of immunocompromised for the patient is determined by the treating provider, and preventive actions are tailored to each individual and situation.