

RELEASING COVID-19 CASES AND CONTACTS FROM ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE



Interim guidance as of March 24, 2020. Subject to change.

CASES (confirmed and possible)

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.

HOUSEHOLD/RESIDENTIAL CONTACTS*

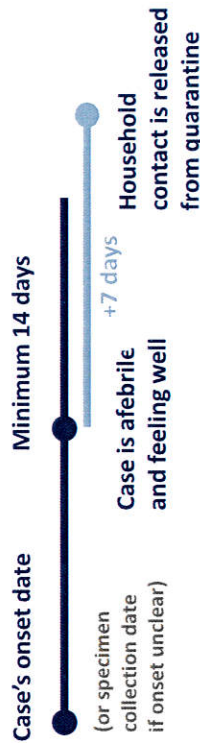
Must be quarantined for 7 days after the case has been afebrile and feeling well (because exposure is considered ongoing within the home) and for a minimum of 14 days.

If a household contact develops symptoms, follow directions for probable case

This means that household contacts may need to remain at home longer than the initial case.

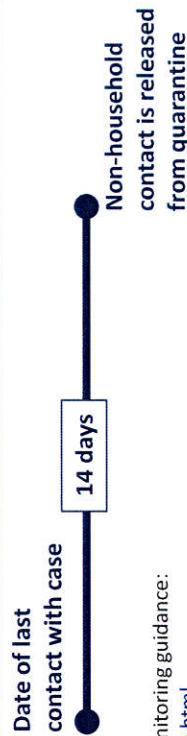
Examples:

- A case is well 3 days after onset. The household contact must remain quarantined until day 14.
- A case is well 7 days after onset. The household contact can be released on day 14.
- A case is well 14 days after onset. The household contact can be released on day 21.



NON-HOUSEHOLD CLOSE CONTACTS*

Must be quarantined for 14 days from the date of last contact with the case.



*HCWs should discuss returning to work with their employer. See also HCW monitoring guidance: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-risk-assessment-hcp.html>