

### COVID-19 Release From Isolation and Return-to-Work Guidance

#### Laboratory-Confirmed COVID-19 Patients

#### Symptom-Based Strategy

Patients With Symptoms

At least **10 days** have passed since onset of first symptoms

Improvement in symptoms

At least **24 hours** since last fever\*

#### Time-Based Strategy

Patients With No Symptoms

At least **10 days** have passed from collection date of first positive test

No Symptoms have developed since the first positive test

#### Test-Based Strategy

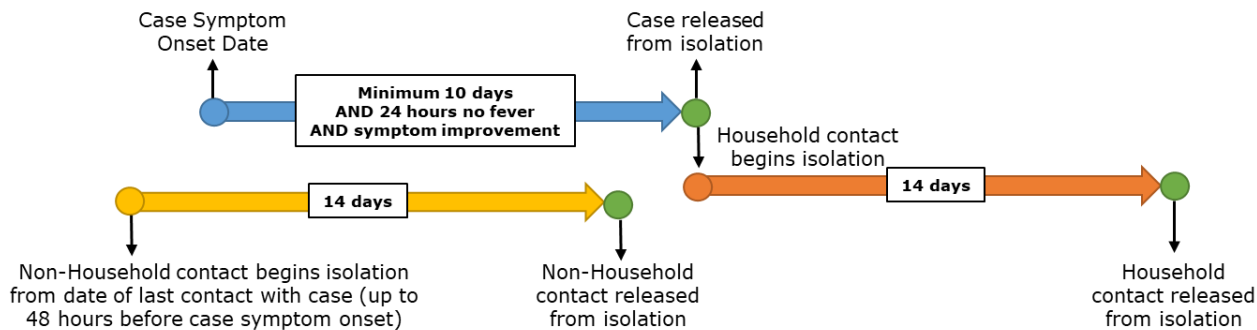
Critically ill or severely immunocompromised patients

Two negative PCR test results collected  $\geq$  **24 hours** apart

Improvement in symptoms

Resolution of fever\*

\*Without the Use of Fever-Reducing Medications



#### Useful References:

- [CDC Guidance for Disposition of Hospitalized Patients](#)
- [CDC Guidance for Disposition of Home Isolation Patients](#)
- [CDC Return-To-Work Criteria for Healthcare Providers](#)

- [CDC Strategies to Mitigate HCP Staffing Shortages](#)
- [CDC Strategies for Optimizing PPE](#)

#### Choosing a Strategy

##### Test-Based Strategy

Only recommended for:

- Severely Immunocompromised patients

##### Symptom and/or Time-Based Strategy

Consider for:

- Patients not meeting criteria for test-based strategy
- Suspected COVID-19 patients that are never tested
- Note: For patients with severe illness, duration of isolation for up to **20 days** may be warranted

#### Release of Case Contacts

##### Household Contacts

- Must be Quarantined for **14 days** after positive case is released from isolation

##### Non-Household Contacts

- Must be Quarantined for **14 days** from the date of last contact with the case (identified as contact with case up to 48 hours before case symptom onset).

#### Considerations for Healthcare Providers Who Are Unable to Quarantine

##### Healthcare providers with unprotected exposure to SARS-CoV-2 and are not known to be infected:

- Wear a facemask at all times until **14 days** after exposure
- Be restricted from contact with severely immunocompromised patients until **14 days** after exposure
- Adhere to hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene, and cough etiquette infection control guidance
- Self-monitor for symptoms and re-evaluate if symptoms recur or worsen