

REPEAT TESTING IS NOT RECOMMENDED
FOR AT LEAST 90 DAYS UNLESS
 SYMPTOMATIC AFTER AN EXPOSURE OR
 REQUIRED FOR DISCHARGE PLACEMENT

COVID-19 Isolation Decision Algorithm 1/20/2022

COVID-19 positive patient

Hospitalized for COVID-19
 with symptoms

Hospitalized for Non-COVID-19 conditions
 (e.g., outpatient surgery, trauma surgery)
 Patient tested for screening purposes

Severely ill

(Individuals who have SpO₂ <94% on room air, (PaO₂/FiO₂) <300 mm Hg, a respiratory rate >30 breaths/min, or lung infiltrates >50%)

Moderate COVID-19 illness

(Individuals who show evidence of lower respiratory disease during clinical assessment or imaging and who have an SpO₂ ≥94% on room air)

Mild COVID-19 illness

(Individuals who have any of the various signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., fever, cough, sore throat, malaise, headache, muscle pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, loss of taste/smell) but who do not have shortness of breath, dyspnea, or abnormal chest imaging.)

Symptoms never develop
 (asymptomatic)

Isolation can end at least 10 days after the first positive test (with day 0 being the date their specimen was collected for the positive test). However, if symptoms develop after a positive test, their 10-day isolation period should start over (day 0 changes to the first day of symptoms).

Moderately or Severely Immunocompromised?*

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No

Yes

Yes

No

Isolate for 20 days after symptom onset, AND 24 hours fever-free (without the use of fever-reducing medication) AND symptoms are improving.

Extend isolation to 20 or more days (day 0 is the first day of symptoms or a positive viral test). Use a test-based strategy and consult Infectious Disease to determine the appropriate duration of isolation and precautions.

Isolate for 10 days
 (day 0 being the first day of symptoms)

*<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html#considerations-covid19-vax-immunocompromised>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/duration-isolation.html>