COVID-19 Interim Return to Work/School Guidance

<table>
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<th>Person with:</th>
<th>Recommendation:</th>
<th>Outcome:</th>
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<td><em><em>CLOSE CONTACT</em> WITH A CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASE</em>*</td>
<td><strong>Test for COVID-19, whether symptomatic or asymptomatic</strong>&lt;br&gt;  o Will not shorten required 14-day quarantine&lt;br&gt;  o If positive, investigation may identify other contacts that possibly have been exposed&lt;br&gt;  • Advise patient they must quarantine for 14 days after date of last exposure (and if continued exposure, 14 days after confirmed case released from isolation)</td>
<td>*<em>Positive COVID-19 test: HDOH will work with clinician re: identification of contacts, period of isolation,</em> etc.&lt;br&gt; <strong>Negative COVID-19 test: Continue 14-day quarantine</strong></td>
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**COVID-19-LIKE SYMPTOMS‡, e.g.:**<br>  • Fever (>100.4°F)<br>  • Sore throat<br>  • New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing<br>  • Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain<br>  • New onset of severe headache<br>  • New loss of taste or smell<br>  **Test for COVID-19; advise patient to self-isolate pending results of COVID-19 testing<br>  • Consider testing for influenza and other pathogens**<br>  **If COVID-19 testing result is**<br>  o **Positive**: HDOH will work with clinician re: identification of contacts, period of isolation,* etc.<br>  o **Negative**: May return to work/school as long as symptoms resolving and no fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications<br>  • If other explicative etiology (and COVID-19 negative), then manage same as if negative for COVID-19

**ILLNESS with low clinical suspicion for COVID-19 or PAST MEDICAL HISTORY OF OTHER ETIOLOGY (e.g. allergy, asthma) in person well-known to clinician**<br>  **Use clinical judgement on a case-by-case basis**<br>  **May return to work/school as long as symptoms resolving and no fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications**

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* Someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person over a 24-hour period for a combined total of 15 minutes or more or had direct contact with infected person’s secretions (e.g., coughed directly into face of contact) starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic persons, 2 days prior to test specimen collection); healthcare personnel wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (see [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html)) are considered protected.

If a person whom you suspect has COVID-19 refuses testing, patient should remain isolated until:<br>  • At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared **AND**<br>  • At least 24 hours have passed since last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications **AND**<br>  • Symptoms have improved (e.g., cough, shortness of breath)

*Last updated: November 3, 2020*