## COVID-19 Interim Return to Work/School Guidance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person with:</th>
<th>Recommendation:</th>
<th>Outcome:</th>
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| **CLOSE CONTACT** with a **CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASE** | - **Test for COVID-19**, whether symptomatic or asymptomatic  
  o Will not shorten *required* 10-day quarantine  
  o If positive, investigation may identify other contacts that possibly have been exposed  
  • Patient must quarantine for 10 days after date of last exposure (and if continued exposure, 10 days after confirmed case released from isolation)  
  • If patient lives or works in congregate settings, or lives with someone who works in congregate settings, they must remain at home in quarantine for 14 days. | - **Positive COVID-19 test**: HDOH will work with clinician re: identification of contacts, period of isolation,† etc.  
  - **Negative COVID-19 test**: Continue 10-day quarantine |
| **COVID-19-LIKE SYMPTOMS**, e.g.:  
  • Fever (>100.4°F)  
  • Sore throat  
  • New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing  
  • Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain  
  • New onset of severe headache  
  • New loss of taste or smell | - **Test for COVID-19**: advise patient to self-isolate pending results of COVID-19 testing  
  • Consider testing for influenza and other pathogens  
  • If a person whom you suspect has COVID-19 refuses testing, patient should be treated like a case and isolated. | - If COVID-19 testing result is  
  o **Positive†**: patient should stay in isolation, until:  
    - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared AND  
    - At least 24 hours have passed since last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications AND  
    - Symptoms have improved  
  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  
  • 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 | - Use clinical judgement on a case-by-case basis  
  • If a person whom you suspect has COVID-19 refuses testing, patient should be treated like a case and isolated. | - May return to work/school as long as symptoms resolving and no fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications |

* 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.


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