Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions

Asymptomatic Patients

1) Not Immunocompromised / Asymptomatic: Transmission-Based Precautions may be discontinued when at least 10 days have passed since the date of the patient’s first positive viral diagnostic test.

2) Immunocompromised / Asymptomatic: Transmission-Based Precautions may be discontinued when at least 20 days have passed since the date of the patient’s first positive viral diagnostic test.

Definitions

1) Mild Illness: Individuals who have any of the various signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (i.e., fever, cough, sore throat, headache, muscle pain) without shortness of breath, dyspnea, or abnormal chest imaging.

2) Moderate Illness: Individuals who have evidence of lower respiratory disease by clinical assessment or imaging and a saturation of oxygen (SpO2) ≥94% on room air at sea level.

3) Severe Illness: Individuals who have respiratory frequency >30 breaths per minute, SpO2 <94% on room air at sea level (or, for patients with chronic hypoxemia, a decrease from baseline of >3%), ratio of arterial partial pressure of oxygen to fraction of inspired oxygen (PaO2/FiO2) <300 mmHg, or lung infiltrates >50%.

4) Immunocompromised: Some conditions, such as being on chemotherapy for cancer, untreated HIV infection with CD4 T lymphocyte count < 200, combined primary immunodeficiency disorder, and receipt of prednisone >20mg/day for more than 14 days, may cause a higher degree of immunocompromise and inform decisions regarding the duration of Transmission-Based Precautions. Other factors, such as advanced age, diabetes mellitus, or end-stage renal disease, may pose a much lower degree of immunocompromise and not clearly affect decisions about duration of Transmission-Based Precautions. Ultimately, the degree of immunocompromise for the patient is determined by the treating provider, and preventive actions are tailored to each individual and situation.