

LTC Infection Prevention Updates

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Indiana State
Department of Health

**“The only
infection that
matters to your
patient or resident
is theirs!”**



CDC Updates July 17

The following COVID Healthcare IPC guidance has been updated:

- Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions (*updated July 17, 2020*): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-hospitalized-patients.html>
- HCP Return to Work Guidance (*updated July 17, 2020*): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/return-to-work.html>

Symptom-Based Criteria Changes

- Other symptom-based criteria were modified as follows:
 - Changed from “at least 72 hours” to “**at least 24 hours**” have passed *since last fever* without the use of fever-reducing medications.
 - Changed from “improvement in respiratory symptoms” to “**improvement in symptoms**” to address expanding list of symptoms associated with COVID-19.
 - Reinfection with SARS-CoV-2 has not yet been definitively confirmed in any recovered persons to date.

Symptom-Based Criteria Changes

Residents or HCP with mild to moderate illness who are not severely immunocompromised:

- 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 (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) have improved
- **Note:** For patients who are not severely immunocompromised and who were **asymptomatic** throughout their infection, Transmission-Based Precautions may be discontinued when at least **10 days have passed since the date of their first positive viral diagnostic test.**

Symptom-Based Criteria Changes

Residents or HCP with severe to critical illness or who are **severely immunocompromised**:

- At least **20 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 (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) have improved
- **Note:** For severely immunocompromised residents who were **asymptomatic** throughout their infection, Transmission-Based Precautions may be discontinued when at least **20 days have passed since the date of their first positive viral diagnostic test.**

Summary of Recent Changes

- Except for rare situations, a **test-based strategy is no longer recommended** to determine when to discontinue Transmission-Based Precautions.
- For patients with severe to critical illness or who are severely immunocompromised, the recommended duration for Transmission-Based Precautions was **extended to 20 days after symptom onset** (or, for asymptomatic severely immunocompromised patients, 20 days after their initial positive SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic test).

Test-Based Strategy

- In some instances, a test-based strategy could be considered for discontinuing Transmission-based Precautions earlier than if the symptom-based strategy were used.
- However, as described in the Decision Memo, many individuals will have prolonged viral shedding, limiting the utility of this approach. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/duration-isolation.html>.
- A test-based strategy could also be considered for some patients (e.g., those who are severely immunocompromised) in consultation with local infectious diseases experts if concerns exist for the patient being infectious for more than 20 days.

Other CDC Guidance Updates

- Recommendations for duration of Isolation and Precautions for Adults with COVID-19:
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/hcp/durationisolation.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019ncov%2Fcommunity%2Fstrategy-discontinue-isolation.html
 - Anyone who have recovered from symptomatic COVID-19 and remains asymptomatic in recovery should not be retested during the first 3 months following their symptom onset because it's not likely to provide useful information.
 - Quarantine is not recommended for a previously-diagnosed symptomatic case who becomes a close contact of an infected person.
 - Serologic testing should not be used to establish the presence or absence of SARS-CoV-2 infection or reinfection.

CDC Guidance Updates

- I think or know I had COVID-19, and I had symptoms (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-aresick/isolation.html>)

Can be with others after:

- At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared and
- At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication and
- Symptoms have improved
- Depending on your healthcare provider's advice and availability of testing, you might get tested to see if you still have COVID-19. If you will be tested, you can be around others when you have no fever, respiratory symptoms have improved, and you receive two negative test results in a row, at least 24 hours apart.

Infection Prevention Team Districts

11 IP field positions and 1EPI for LTC

- **Group One started - July 8**
 - Janene Gumz -Pulaski RN, CIC District 1
 - Jennifer Kosar RN, District 2 & 3
 - Victor Zindoga RN, District 2 & 3
- **Group Two started - July 16**
 - Erin Swartz MPH, District 5 - Hamilton / ½ Marion Co.
 - Angela Badibanga MPH, District 4
 - Mary Enlow RN, District 10
- **Group Three to begin - August 10-17**
 - Gloria Marinelli MT, CIC- District 6
 - Deanna Paddack RN, District 5 Johnson / ½ Marion Co.
 - DeAnn Martin RN, District 7
 - Nyehla Irsheid- Epidemiologist LTC
- Three-week orientation with shadowing days in LTC buildings with Jennifer Spivey from July 29- Aug. 28.
- Will be in the field by Sept 1- full time (9 of 11 positions) Still hiring for District 8 and 9
- I will publish lists and contact information after orientation has concluded for groups.



District Infection Preventionist

- **Mission:** To provide infection control evidence-based guidance and education to prevent the further spread of COVID 19 and MDROs in Indiana's Long Term Care (LTC) and assigned congregate care settings.
- Performs 60-70 proactive LTC ICAR assessments in first year per district.
- Will be responding to new COVID outbreaks in LTC district when Regulatory Surveyors go back to their current roles. (Sept-Oct?)
- Your contact for IP questions in your district.
- Collaborates with LHD for outbreak control.

District IP contact for EBP guidance & questions

Jennifer & IP Team:

- LTC Regulatory
- LTC- AL facilities
- LTC associations
- Behavioral health
- FSSA Home Care
- Acute care IPs
- LTC Strike team
- Field Epis
- LHD specific to LTC

Congregate Care Lead:

- Group homes
- Jails, Work Release
Prisons, DOC
- Children's services,
foster care, DCS
- LHD for congregate care

LTC IP TEAM SUPPORTS #MaskUpHoosiers!



Janene- District 1



Victor- District 2 & 3



Jen- District 2 & 3



Angela- District 4



Erin- District 5



Mary- District 10



Tina- HAI Supervisor



Jennifer- Program Manager IP



Any Questions?

Contact Information

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