

Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions

Mild to Moderate COVID-19 Illness



- 10 days since symptoms first appeared
- 24 hours since last fever without use of medications (Previous version required 72 hours)
- Symptoms have improved (Previous version required respiratory symptoms to have improved)

Severe COVID-19 Illness or Immunocompromised Patient**



- At least 10 days and up to 20 days since symptoms first appeared (Previous version required 20 days)
- 24 hours since last fever without use of medications (Previous version required 72 hours)
- Symptoms have improved (Previous version required respiratory symptoms to have improved)

****For discontinuation of transmission-based precautions for severe COVID-19 illness or an immunocompromised patient, the CDC also recommends consideration of consultation with infection control experts.**

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 10 days and up to 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.