



SBAR: Changes to COVID-19 Isolation and Quarantine

March 9, 2022

Interim IPAC recommendations from the CDC have been updated to reflect new guidance for isolation and quarantine, along with consideration for vaccination status.

SITUATION:

The CDC updated its IPAC recommendations on 2/2/22 for healthcare personnel during the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic. CHKDHS will update its guidance to reflect the changes.

BACKGROUND:

We have been using previous recommendations for patient isolation and quarantine based on past documents. Infected patients and those under investigation are placed under “enhanced contact and droplet isolation” per CHKDHS standards since spring 2020, with adjustments as needed based on updated federal and state standards. This SBAR does not change those PPE standards but will address the length of isolation based on patient immune system status and severity of illness. Removal of enhanced isolation will continue to require IPAC approval.

ASSESSMENT:

CHKDHS guidance for isolation and quarantine will reflect the updated CDC recommendations.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Empiric use of enhanced contact/droplet precautions (quarantine) is recommended for patients who have had close contact with someone with SARS-CoV2 infection if they are not up to date with all recommended COVID-19 vaccine doses for 10 days following their last contact with an infected person. This includes persons under investigation (PUI) and parents.
2. Quarantine is NOT needed for patients/parents who have had close contact with SARS-CoV2 infection or who have had COVID-19 infection within the past 90 days IF they are up to date with all recommended doses of COVID-19 vaccine doses.

This will require proof of vaccination either from the VIS database or a vaccine card. This will be verified by the medical or surgical team the patient is admitted to.

3. For the infected patient: the duration of the isolation is dependent on immune status. For those with a normal immune system, isolation is 10 days from the first day of symptoms/positive test along with no fever for 24 hours and improving symptoms in those with no, mild, or moderate symptoms. Those with severe symptoms require at least 20 days of isolation, and testing is considered to remove isolation.
4. For the immunocompromised, isolation is at least 20 days, with SARS-CoV2 testing performed on day 20 and day 21 to remove isolation precautions under the direction of IPAC for inpatients. If any test is positive (PCR or rapid antigen), the isolation continues. Testing may be repeated every seven days until negative. If the testing is negative, isolation may be discontinued with IPAC approval for inpatients.

Immune Status	Asymptomatic	Mild-Moderate	Severe
Normal	10 days	10 days	20 days with testing
Suppressed	20 days with testing	20 days with testing	20 days with testing