

Eric Faisst, Director of Public Health Board of Health Dr. John B. Endres, President of

November 29, 2021

Madison County Department of Health Guidance on Quarantine for Community Persons Exposed to COVID-19

SUMMARY

• Based on data analysis of COVID Transmission in Cases from July-November this document was created to better meet timeliness measures in case investigation and contact tracing in Madison County

IDENTIFICATION OF CLOSE CONTACTS IN NEED OF QUARANTINE

Prior to this document, Madison County Department of health quarantined all close contacts defined as those within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more in a 24 hour period, regardless of household status. This included non-household family contacts, school contacts, workplace contacts, and any other contacts meeting this definition. Those identified were entered into CommCare as contacts to the positive case and asked to quarantine by NYSDOH contact tracers for 10 days from the date of last exposure.

Through examination of cases from July 2021 – November 2021 in Madison County, it was found that 1,174 (50%) of cases had a known exposure to COVID-19. Of those who indicated exposure prior to testing positive, 87% indicated that the exposure was due to someone positive in their household. Given these data, the MCDOH is modifying their close contact quarantine protocol.

Individuals in the same household as the positive case will be placed under quarantine by the MCDOH. During the case investigation, other individuals identified to have considerable exposure to a positive case may also be asked to quarantine on a case by case basis.

Information on household contacts (including name, phone number, and date of last exposure) will be collected and entered into CommCare for contact interview and follow up. Other contacts identified on a case by case basis will also have the same information collected and entered into CommCare for contact interview and follow up.

For all other contacts, the positive case will be advised to inform the other contacts of positive status and encourage them to self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days and test if any symptoms develop. These other contacts will not be entered into CommCare for quarantine and follow up.



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QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS

1. For vaccinated individuals exposed to COVID-19

Fully vaccinated is defined as being 2 weeks or more after either receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series, or when 2 weeks or more after receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine.

Asymptomatic individuals who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 do not need to quarantine after exposure to COVID-19.

Fully vaccinated individuals exposed to COVID-19 who are experiencing related symptoms must isolate themselves, be clinically evaluated for COVID-19, and tested for COVID-19 if indicated

This guidance applies to all fully vaccinated people. However, individuals should be encouraged to consult with their healthcare provider if they have any questions about their individual situation, such as immunocompromising conditions or other concerns

2. For previously recovered individuals exposed to COVID-19

Asymptomatic individuals exposed to COVID-19 who have been previously diagnosed with laboratory confirmed COVID-19, and have since recovered, are not required to retest and quarantine provided the new exposure is within 3 months after the date of symptom onset from the initial COVID-19 infection or date of first positive diagnostic test if asymptomatic during illness.

This guidance applies to all people who have previously recovered from COVID-19 and are newly exposed to COVID-19. However, individuals should be encouraged to consult with their healthcare provider if they have any questions about their individual situation, such as immunocompromising conditions or other concerns.

3. For individuals exposed to COVID-19 who are not fully vaccinated or have not recovered from COVID-19 in the previous 3 months

Individuals who have been exposed to someone with confirmed or suspected COVID-19, who are not fully vaccinated or have not recovered from COVID-19 in the previous 3 months, are required to quarantine for 10 days after exposure. Testing is not required to end quarantine if no symptoms have been reported during the quarantine period. However, a test should be sought immediately if any symptoms develop during the 14 days after exposure.

Asymptomatic individuals who have been exposure and are in quarantine are able to shorten their quarantine. If the asymptomatic individual is tested on day 5 or later and receives a negative test they are able to exit quarantine after day 7. Individuals interested in testing out must contact Madison County Health Department contact tracing staff to have edited quarantine orders and release paperwork sent to them on day 7 or later.

MONITORING REQUIREMENTS FOR EVERYONE AFTER EXPOSURE TO COVID-19

Irrespective of quarantine status, all individuals exposed to COVID-19 should:

- Monitor symptoms daily from day of exposure through Day 14
- Continue strict adherence to all recommended non-pharmaceutical interventions, including hand hygiene and the use of face coverings through Day 14 (even if fully vaccinated)
- Immediately self-isolate if any symptoms develop and contact the local public health authority or their health care provider to report this change in clinical status and determine if they should seek testing

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This guidance applies only to asymptomatic individuals exposed to COVID-19 and who have not tested positive as a result of a recent exposure. Consistent with ongoing NYSDOH requirements, individuals who test positive for COVID-19 must isolate.

Information on release from isolation after testing positive can be found at the following link: <u>https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2021/07/doh_covid19_discontinueisolation_72</u> <u>421.pdf</u>