BILH Interim Guidance for Patients with COVID-19: Discontinuation of Isolation and Return to Healthcare Settings

This document provides guidance on management of patients with COVID-19 in both the the inpatient and outpatient setting. These outpatient visits include: ambulatory visits, surgeries,procedures, laboratory or imaging appointments. Note that this guidance does NOT apply to healthcare personnel (See BILH Return to Work Criteria on institution-specific website).

- **Patients require precautions in the healthcare setting (i.e., Droplet and Contact precautions) until meeting BOTH sets of criteria below (Recovered Status AND Discontinuation of Precautions in the Healthcare Setting (Prior COVID-19*)).**
- **Patients no longer require home isolation once achieving Recovered Status.**
- ***Note: A test-based strategy is preferred for inpatients, however it is reasonable to move from a test-based to a time-based strategy at the time of discharge, if a patient does not meet Recovered Status during hospitalization.***

	Required to Achieve Recovered Status (End of home isolation)			Required to Discontinue Precautions in the Healthcare Setting (Prior COVID-19)	
	Strategy	**Criteria**		**Patient Type**	**Criteria**
Symptomatic	**Time-based Strategy** • ***Preferred for: Ambulatory*** • ***Previously hospitalized*** • ***COVID-Suspect but negative COVID-19 PCR***	1. At least 14 days after COVID-19 diagnosis *(positive test, or symptom onset for suspect case)* **AND** 2. Resolution of fever for at least 3 days (72 hours) without the use of fever-reducing medications **AND** 3. Improvement of signs and symptoms of illness	**THEN →**	**Non-immunocompromised**	7 additional days after achieving Recovered Status *(i.e., in addition to 14 days + 7 days = 21 days total)*
				Immunocompromised ***(e.g. Oncology, BMT, SOT, steroids≥15 mg/day x28 days or more)***	• 7 additional days after achieving Recovered Status **AND** • One negative nasopharyngeal PCR test for COVID-19 ○ If positive, repeat every 7 days until negative (or cleared by Infection Control/Infectious Diseases)
	Test-based Strategy ***(Preferred for hospitalized patients)***	1. The following three criteria must be met: • At least 10 days have passed since initial positive COVID-19 test **AND** • Resolution of fever for at least 3 days (72 hours) without the use of fever-reducing medications **AND** • Improvement of signs and symptoms of illness **AND** 2. Two consecutive negative nasopharyngeal PCR tests for COVID-19 *obtained at least 24 hours apart*	**THEN →**	**Any Patient** ***(Preferred for hospitalized patients while still In inpatient setting)***	When Recovered Status achieved (i.e. no additional time required)
Asymptomatic	**Time-based Strategy**	At least 14 days have passed since initial positive COVID-19 PCR	**THEN →**	**Any Patient**	When Recovered Status achieved (i.e. no additional time required)

**For definition of Prior COVID-19, please see COVID-19 Definitions and Isolation Precautions in the Inpatient and Outpatient Setting*

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