COVID-19 ISOLATION GUIDANCE FOR CASES

**MILD CASES**

**Able to wear a high quality, well-fitting mask**
- Isolate at home for a minimum of 5 days after onset of symptoms, or sample collection if asymptomatic, and can be released after fever-free (without fever-reducing medication) for at least 24 hours and improvement in other symptoms, whichever is longer.
- Must wear a high quality, well-fitting mask around others for an additional 5 days after release from isolation (day 6 – 10) or until two sequential negative antigen tests taken 48 hours apart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum 5 days isolation at home</th>
<th>24 hours</th>
<th>Continue masking around others from day 6 to 10, or until two negative tests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Not able to wear a high quality, well-fitting mask**
- Isolate at home for a minimum of 10 days after onset of symptoms, or sample collection if asymptomatic, and can be released after fever-free (without fever-reducing medication) for at least 24 hours and improvement in other symptoms, whichever is longer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimum 10 days isolation at home</th>
<th>24 hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Day 0 – Symptom onset date or specimen collection date if not experiencing symptoms**

**Day 6 – release from isolation; return to regular activities while masked**

**Day 11 – return to regular activities**

**Day 11 – return to regular activities**

**NOTES:**
- Linger ing cough or loss of taste or smell should not prevent a case from being released from isolation.
- If an individual tests after 5 days of home isolation, an antigen test is preferred. If the test result is positive, isolate at home for a full 10 days.
- If a follow-up PCR or antigen test is positive after 10 days of home isolation, cases do not need to re-enter isolation as long as they have completed the 10-day isolation and had symptom improvement for a minimum of 24 hours.

Updated 8/18/2022
MODERATE OR SEVERE CASES

Moderate illness (experienced shortness of breath or difficulty breathing); Severe illness (hospitalized)

- Isolate at home for 10 days after onset of symptoms and can be released after fever-free (without fever-reducing medication) for at least 24 hours and improvement in other symptoms, whichever is longer. Consult physician before ending isolation.

**Notes:**
- Lingering cough or loss of taste or smell should not prevent a case from being released from isolation.
- If a follow-up PCR or antigen test is positive after the 10 days of home isolation, cases do not need to re-enter isolation as long as they have completed the 10-day isolation and had symptom improvement for a minimum of 24 hours.
NON-HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS

- Contacts should wear a **high quality**, well-fitting mask for 10 days. Do not go places where you are unable to wear a mask. Take extra precautions if you will be around people who are more likely to get very sick from COVID-19. Watch for symptoms.

HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS

A household contact is an individual who shares any living spaces with a case. This includes bedrooms, bathrooms, living rooms, kitchens, etc. Household contacts should wear a high quality, well-fitting mask as long as they are exposed to the person with COVID-19 plus a 10-day period beyond their last exposure.

**Notes:**
- Masks are not recommended for children 2 years and younger, or for people with some disabilities. Other prevention actions (such as improving ventilation) should be used to avoid transmission.

**Updated 8/18/2022**