



Discontinuation of Isolation and Transmission Based Precautions for Patients with Laboratory-Confirmed COVID-19 Infection

July 31, 2020

The decision to discontinue Isolation and Transmission Based Precautions for patients with confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection should be made using a symptom-based strategy. A test-based strategy is no longer recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (with rare exceptions) because, in the majority of cases, it results in prolonged isolation of patients who continue to shed detectable SARS-CoV-2 RNA but are no longer infectious. The time period used depends on the patient's severity of illness and if they are severely immunocompromised.

Symptom-Based Strategy for Discontinuing Transmission-Based Precautions

Asymptomatic patient

When the patient is 10 days past the initial SARS-CoV-2 PCR test.

Isolation and precautions can be discontinued. Patient is no longer a transmission risk to others.

Symptomatic patient – NOT HOSPITALIZED for COVID-19

When the patient is 10 days past the date of symptom onset, has had resolution of fever for at least 24 hours, and overall improvement in other symptoms. **Isolation and precautions can be discontinued. Patient is no longer a transmission risk to others.**

Symptomatic patient – HOSPITALIZED for COVID-19

When the patient is 20 days past the date of symptom onset, has had resolution of fever for at least 24 hours, and overall improvement in other symptoms.

Isolation and precautions can be discontinued. Patient is no longer a transmission risk to others.

Symptomatic patient – HOSPITALIZED for COVID-19 AND intubated (critically ill) or severely immunosuppressed*

When the patient is 28 days past the date of symptom onset, has had resolution of fever for at least 24 hours, and overall improvement in other symptoms.

*Defined criteria severely immunosuppressed:

- o being on chemotherapy for cancer

- organ transplant recipient
- untreated HIV infection with CD4 T lymphocyte count < 200
- combined primary immunodeficiency disorder
- receipt of prednisone >20mg/day for more than 14 days (or equivalent)
- DOES NOT INCLUDE: advanced age, diabetes mellitus, or end-stage renal disease. These are not independent criteria for severe immunosuppression.

Isolation and precautions can be discontinued. Patient is no longer a transmission risk to others.

The COVID-19 situation continues to evolve and this guidance is based on currently available information. Recommendations are subject to change based on supply availability, future clinical needs, and evidence.