

Overview of New Guidance on Isolation from DOHMH 05/20/20

A. Isolation Criteria for Asymptomatic Clients who Tested Positive for COVID-19 by PCR

- The following criteria should be used as the minimum duration of time for maintaining isolation:
 - Asymptomatic clients who test positive for COVID-19 should be isolated for at least 14 days from the date of specimen collection.
 - Isolation can be discontinued for asymptomatic clients after 14 days, unless they develop symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
 - If an asymptomatic client develops COVID-19 symptoms during isolation, please follow the symptom-based guidance provided in the next section to determine when isolation should be discontinued.

B. Isolation Criteria for Symptomatic Clients with Confirmed or Possible COVID-19

- The following criteria should be used as the minimum duration of time for maintaining isolation:
 - At least 14 days after symptom-onset; AND
 - Absence of fever for at least 3 days without fever-reducing medications (if the client ever had a fever); AND
 - Overall illness has improved.

C. Isolation Criteria for Clients Who Have a Subsequent Positive COVID-19 PCR Test Following an Appropriate Period of Isolation

- Clients who had a positive COVID-19 PCR test and who completed an appropriate period of isolation (as described above), but who are re-tested and have a subsequent positive COVID-19 PCR test, do not need an additional period of isolation.
- This does not apply to people who were not tested or had negative COVID-19 test initially; in this case the positive PCR is considered a first positive.

D. Isolation Criteria for Clients Who Were Previously Negative or Were Not Tested (COVID like illness) and Now Have a Positive COVID-19 PCR Test

- Clients who were previously negative or were not tested and reported COVID-like illness (symptomatic) and underwent an appropriate period of isolation (as in B. above) must isolate again following a new positive COVID-19 PCR test.
- The following criteria should be used as the minimum duration of time for maintaining isolation:
 - At least 14 days after date of specimen collection of the positive test.