

# MCDPH COVID-19 Isolation Guidance Algorithm

(Last updated 5/19/20)

**Has the patient had any symptoms consistent with COVID-19\*?**

\*Fever, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, rigors, sore throat, headache, body/muscle aches, new loss of taste/smell

**Is the patient previously symptomatic, now asymptomatic, and being retested at the end of their isolation period?**

**YES**

**NO**

**Did the patient test positive for COVID-19 by a PCR or serology (IgM or IgG) test?**

**YES**

**NO**

### Isolation Guidance

Stay at home or under isolation precautions **until at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared\* AND at least 3 days (72 hours) have passed** since resolution of fever (including fever, chills, rigors, and body/muscle aches) without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (including cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, sore throat, and loss of taste or smell).

\*If the date of symptom onset is unknown, then use the date of COVID-19 test collection.

### Isolation Guidance

Stay at home or under isolation precautions **until at least 3 days (72 hours) have passed** since resolution of fever (including fever, chills, rigors, and body/muscle aches) without the use of fever-reducing medications AND improvement in respiratory symptoms (including cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, sore throat, and loss of taste or smell).

**Did the patient test positive for COVID-19 by a PCR test?**

**NO**

**YES**

### Isolation Guidance

Stay at home or under isolation precautions **until at least 10 days have passed** since the date of the first positive COVID-19 test collection (as long as the patient has remained asymptomatic).\*

\*If the patient was retested at the end of their isolation period, they can elect to come out of isolation before the 10-day mark, if they have 2 sequential negative PCR tests  $\geq 24$  hours apart.

**NO**

**Did the patient test positive for COVID-19 by a serology (IgM or IgG) only?**

**YES**

**NO**

### Enhanced Precautions

- Consider getting a PCR test to help determine if the patient is currently infected or was previously exposed.
- Use a cloth face covering while outside the home for at least 10 days after the COVID-19 test specimen was collected and take everyday precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- Healthcare personnel and first responders should wear a surgical mask while providing patient care for 10 days after the COVID-19 test specimen was collected.

### Isolation Guidance

No isolation needed