

# DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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## **Technical Bulletin**

Date: September 13, 2021

Topic: Quarantine new admits and readmissions regardless of vaccination status in nursing homes and

residential facilities.

Contact: Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Infection Control and Prevention Section

**To:** All Licensed Health Care and Residential Facilities

#### **Background:**

Due to the concerning increase in COVID-19 test positivity rate, the alarming increase in COVID-19-related hospitalizations and deaths, and an observed increase in breakthrough cases driven by the highly infective Delta variant, the Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) recommends that facilities quarantine all new admissions and readmissions regardless of vaccination status. This recommendation is based on CDC quarantine guidelines for unvaccinated residents in order to minimize the risk of exposures and to prevent outbreaks.

DPBH is recommending that all new admissions and readmissions be placed on a 14-day quarantine period, even if the individual initially had a negative COVID-19 test. However, based on local circumstances and the availability of adequate testing resources, the following options to shorten quarantine can be acceptable alternatives.

- Quarantine can end after Day 10 without testing if no symptoms have been reported during daily monitoring.
- When testing resources are available, quarantine can end after Day 7 if a diagnostic specimen tests negative and no symptoms were reported during daily monitoring. The specimen should be collected and tested within 48 hours before the time of planned quarantine discontinuation (in anticipation of testing delays), but quarantine cannot be discontinued earlier than after Day 7.

In both options, additional criteria (e.g., continued symptom monitoring and masking through Day 14) must be met. For the full guidance refer to the science brief noted below.

#### **Information on CDC Quarantine Guidelines**

- Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations to Prevent SARS-CoV-2 Spread in Nursing Homes: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/long-term-care.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/long-term-care.html</a>
- Science Brief: Options to Reduce Quarantine for Contacts of Persons with SARS-CoV-2 Infection Using Symptom Monitoring and Diagnostic Testing: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/scientific-brief-options-to-reduce-quarantine.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/scientific-brief-options-to-reduce-quarantine.html</a>
- Quarantine and Isolation: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html?CDC">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html?CDC</a> AA refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fif-you-are-sick%2Fquarantine.html

### Questions:

For updated guidance, please review the DPBH Technical Bulletin <u>website</u> and the Nevada Health Response <u>website</u> regularly. If you have questions regarding this technical bulletin, please email <u>pshubert@health.nv.gov</u>.

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