



Health Alert Network Message 21-28: Updated COVID-19 Quarantine Guidance

Origination Date:
March 17, 2021

Revision Dates (List All Revision Dates):

Updated Quarantine Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated Persons Including the General Public, Healthcare Providers, and Congregate Setting Employees

CDC has updated the quarantine guidance for [fully vaccinated people](#) and [fully vaccinated healthcare workers](#). Fully vaccinated individuals who are not an inpatient in a healthcare facility or a resident of a congregate setting no longer need to quarantine after an exposure, including healthcare personnel, and employees of congregate settings.

Fully vaccinated people who have an exposure (direct contact or are within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more over a 24 hour period) to someone who has a COVID-19 infection and remain asymptomatic do not need to quarantine if they meet the criteria below:

- Are fully vaccinated (i.e., ≥ 2 weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series, or ≥ 2 weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine) at the time of exposure, **AND**
- Have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure. *[Note: If the person develops symptoms of COVID-19 within the 14 days after exposure, they should self-isolate immediately for 10 days after symptom onset, and get tested]*, **AND**
- Are not an inpatient in a healthcare setting or resident of a congregate setting (nursing home, correctional facility, etc.).

All close contacts should still watch for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days following an exposure and follow all prevention guidance. Prevention guidance includes wearing a mask, staying at least 6 feet away from others, avoiding crowds, avoiding poorly ventilated spaces, covering coughs and sneezes, washing hands often, following [CDC travel guidance](#), and following any applicable workplace or school guidance, including guidance related to personal protective equipment use for COVID-19 testing.

Additional considerations:

Inpatients in a healthcare facility and residents of congregate settings (long term care facilities, nursing homes, correctional facilities, group homes, etc.) **should quarantine** following an exposure even if fully vaccinated and asymptomatic since exposure.

New admissions to post-acute care facilities observe the following:

- If a known exposure has occurred in the prior 14 days they do need to quarantine even if criteria above are met.
- If no known exposure has occurred in the prior 14 days and criteria above are met, they do not need to quarantine.
- New admissions who are not fully vaccinated should quarantine, regardless of exposure.