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**RE: Definition of Recovered COVID-19 Patients**

On 30 April, 2020 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated its guidance for discontinuation of COVID-19 isolation precautions for individuals who have recovered from COVID-19 infection. The CDC now recommends a “symptom-based strategy” for Symptomatic patients with COVID-19 infection and a “time-based strategy” for Asymptomatic individuals. The CDC does not recommend COVID-19 PCR testing for discontinuing isolation precautions.

1. Ambulatory Symptomatic patients with COVID-19 infection can discontinue isolation precautions if they meet the following criteria:
  - At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without use of fever-reducing medications AND improvement in respiratory symptoms eg shortness of breath or cough.  
AND
  - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
2. All hospitalized COVID-19 patients will remain in isolation until discharged from the hospital. The EPIC COVID-19 banner will be removed 14 days after discharge from hospital and they will be noted to be “COVID recovered”.
  - If a patient is re-admitted 14 days after discharge, they are considered recovered and do not need to be admitted to the COVID unit or re-tested.
  - If a patient is re-admitted within 14 days of discharge, they should be placed in isolation and admitted to the COVID unit.
  - If an ambulatory patient (never hospitalized) needs hospitalization for any reason 14 days after symptom onset, they are considered COVID recovered and do not need to be admitted to the COVID unit or re-tested.
  - If an ambulatory patient (never hospitalized) needs hospitalization for any reason within 14 days of symptom onset, they should be placed in isolation and in general will be admitted to a COVID unit unless they fall into a special population such as an obstetric patient.
  - Ultimately, use this guidance and clinical judgement to determine whether to continue or discontinue isolation precautions and if there is uncertainty, please contact the COVID team on pager: 1869.
3. Asymptomatic patients with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 infection who are either inpatients or ambulatory patients can discontinue isolation precautions if:
  - 10 days have passed since the date of the first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test, assuming they have not subsequently developed symptoms since the positive test.