Ambulatory Discontinuation of Positive COVID-19 Patient - 6.22.20 1200
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A COVID-19 Rapid or PCR test is ordered

Test result POSITIVE (Infection Banner appears in Epic chart)

YES

LPN/RN/Provider to determine if patient was symptomatic at time of the test?

YES

Symptomatic patients with COVID-19 should remain in Severe Respiratory Precautions until one of the below strategies is met:

1. Symptom-based strategy:
   - At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery* AND
   - Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) AND
   - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared

2. Test-based strategy**:
   - Resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications AND
   - Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) AND
   - Negative PCR or Rapid COVID-19 results from at least two (2) consecutive nasopharyngeal swab specimens collected ≥24 hours apart (total of 2 negative specimens)

NO

Patients with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 who have not had any symptoms should remain in Severe Respiratory Precautions until one of the below strategies is met:

1. Time-based strategy:
   - 10 days have passed since the date of their first positive COVID-19 test, assuming they have not subsequently developed symptoms since their positive test.

2. Test-based strategy**:
   - Negative PCR or Rapid COVID-19 results from at least two (2) consecutive nasopharyngeal swab specimens collected ≥24 hours apart (total of 2 negative specimens)

Key Points
- If patient tests positive for COVID-19 AND was asymptomatic at time of test, patient must be isolated if time-based strategy criteria has not been met.
- If patient has met any of the listed strategies above, or 28 days has passed since the positive test, the infection status can be discontinued by Infection Prevention. Please send staff message to Infection Prevention-Ambulatory asking for discontinuation of infection status.
- For additional guidance, questions, or concerns please send staff message to Infection Prevention-Ambulatory.

*Recovery is defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications.

**The test-based strategy is the preferred method for patients who will be discharged to a congregant living situation (nursing home, homeless shelter, group home, etc.) or patients who will be discharged home where there is a severely-immunocompromised individual or there is no opportunity to self-isolate from the rest of the household.