



# Isolation - Quarantine - Outbreak COVID-19

Residential Care Facilities

## Outbreak

COVID-19 outbreaks are generally defined as two or more cases with a link by place and time indicating a shared exposure outside of a household. Local health departments report the number of new and ongoing outbreaks they are investigating by the setting of the outbreak.<sup>1</sup>

**Ingham County:** An **outbreak in a long-term care facility** is defined as one or more facility-acquired COVID-19 cases in a resident.<sup>2</sup>

### Threshold for Reporting to Public Health – Report to Ingham County Health Department (ICHD)

- One or more probable or confirmed COVID-19 case(s) in a resident or Healthcare Personnel (HCP).
- Three (3) or more cases of acute illness compatible with COVID-19 in residents with onset within a 72h period.<sup>2</sup>

## Reporting

**Report all outbreaks to the ICHD Communicable Disease Unit**

**Phone M-F 8am-5pm:** 517-887-4308    **Phone After Hours:** 517-342-9987    **Fax:** 517-887-4379

## Quarantine vs. Isolation

Quarantine and isolation are public health practices used to protect the public by preventing exposure to people who have or may have a contagious disease.

**Quarantine** separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick. These people may have been exposed to a disease and do not know it, or they may have the disease but do not show symptoms.<sup>3</sup>

**Isolation** separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick.<sup>3</sup>

[When to Quarantine](#), CDC      [Quarantine vs. Isolation](#), definitions, steps to take, *poster*, CDC

## General guidance for caring for a patient with suspected or confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection

- **Monitor Health** - For patients with COVID-19 or other respiratory infections, evaluate need for hospitalization. If hospitalization is not medically necessary, home care is preferable if the individual's situation allows.
- **Report** within and between healthcare facilities and to public health authorities.
- **Quarantine/Isolate** resident per established plan (e.g., COVID unit, private room/door closed, limit number of HCP individuals caring for the resident). [See patient placement section to establish protocol](#).
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** - Use PPE per CDC guidelines.
- **Test** - Collect diagnostic respiratory specimens per MDHHS guidelines.
- **Visitation** - Manage visitor access and movement within the facility per Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) guidelines.
- **Clean and disinfect** per environmental infection control protocol.<sup>4</sup>

ICHD 3/19/2021

<sup>1</sup> [OUTBREAK REPORTING](#), MDHHS

<sup>2</sup> [Michigan State and Local Public Health COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedures](#), MI PH Code

<sup>3</sup> [What is the difference between isolation and quarantine?](#), HHS

<sup>4</sup> [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the Coronavirus Disease 2019](#), CDC