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.¹

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

Report to Ingham County Health Department (ICHD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phone M-F 8am-5pm: 517-887-4308</th>
<th>Phone After Hours: 517-342-9987</th>
<th>Fax: 517-887-4379</th>
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- Report one or more probable or confirmed COVID-19 case(s) in a resident or Healthcare Personnel, and/or a death from COVID-19 (within 24 hours of the death).
  
  RESIDENT Positive COVID-19 Reporting Form
  EMPLOYEE Positive COVID-19 Reporting Form
  Report of COVID-19 Patient Death Form

- Report three (3) or more cases of acute illness compatible with COVID-19 in residents with onset within a 72h period.²

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.³

**Isolation** separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick.³

*When to Quarantine*, CDC
*Poster Quarantine vs. Isolation*, definitions, steps to take, 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 MDHHS guidelines.

- **Clean and disinfect** per environmental infection control protocol.\(^4\)

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\(^1\) [OUTBREAK REPORTING](#), MDHHS

\(^2\) [Michigan State and Local Public Health COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedures](#), MI PH Code

\(^3\) [What is the difference between isolation and quarantine?](#), HHS

\(^4\) [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the Coronavirus Disease 2019](#), CDC