



## **The criteria for releasing COVID-19 patients from isolation or quarantine (16 November 2020)**

### **Release from isolation**

An individual with COVID-19 is considered to be infectious two days before developing symptoms and approximately ten days afterwards.

#### **1. Symptomatic individuals (non-hospitalised patients and patients in standard hospital units)**

At least fourteen days have passed since the first development of COVID-19 symptoms, there has been no fever within the past 72 hours (without administering antipyretics), and respiratory symptoms have receded.

#### **2. Symptomatic individuals (patients in Level 3 intensive care units or with severe immunodeficiency as a concomitant disease\*)**

**At least twenty days have passed since the first development of COVID-19 symptoms, there has been no fever within the past 72 hours** (without administering antipyretics), and respiratory symptoms have receded.

It is advisable to consult with an infectious diseases specialist before authorising any release from isolation.

\* The definition of severe immunodeficiency: chemotherapy; combined primary immunodeficiency; HIV; CD4 count  $<200 \times 10^6/L$ ; up to one year after an organ transplant or stem cell transplant; prednisone (or equivalent medicinal product) therapy  $>20\text{mg}$  a day for more than fourteen days.

#### **3. Asymptomatic individuals whose SARS-CoV-2 nucleic acid amplification test (PCR) results were positive**

If no symptoms develop, isolation may be terminated ten days after testing positive.

#### **4. Close contacts of positive COVID-19 cases**

Fourteen days after the latest contact or after receiving a negative SARS-CoV-2 PCR test result, having provided the sample ten days after the latest contact. The quarantine period of a person who is in close daily contact with a case begins at the same time as the isolation period for a COVID-19 case. In the case of a single close contact, quarantine starts from the last moment of contact.



If symptoms develop, the criteria are applied for terminating isolation as described in sections 1 or 2 above, with the first day upon which symptoms develop being counted as the beginning of the isolation period. A SARS-CoV-2 nucleic acid amplification test must be used to confirm a COVID-19 diagnosis.

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