



1-6-2021

On December 2nd, 2020, the CDC issued new options on quarantine for COVID-19. Local public health authorities, such as the Central Racine County Health Department determine and establish the quarantine options for our jurisdiction. CDC currently recommends a quarantine period of 14 days. However, based on local circumstances and resources, the following option to shorten quarantine is an acceptable alternative.

- **Quarantine can end after Day 10 without testing and if NO symptoms have been reported during daily monitoring.**

**Persons can discontinue quarantine at these time points only if the following criteria are also met:**

- **No clinical evidence of COVID-19 has been elicited by daily symptom monitoring during the entirety of quarantine up to the time at which quarantine is discontinued; and,**
- **Daily symptom monitoring continues through day 14; and,**
- **Persons continue to adhere strictly through day 14 to all recommended non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs, a.k.a. Mask wearing, hand hygiene, social distancing), especially.**
- **If any symptoms develop, the person should immediately self-isolate and contact the local public health authority or their healthcare provider to report this change in clinical status.**

**\*\*\*Daily symptom monitoring for COVID-19 illness both during quarantine and after its discontinuation through Day 14 is the responsibility of the parent/guardian.**

“With this strategy, residual post-quarantine transmission risk is estimated to be about 1% with an upper limit of about 10%.”(*Options to Reduce Quarantine for Contacts of Persons with SARS-CoV-2 Infection Using Symptom Monitoring and Diagnostic Testing 2020*).

Quarantine Definition: “Quarantine is used to separate someone who might have been exposed to COVID-19 and may develop illness away from other people. Quarantine helps prevent spread of

disease that can occur before a person knows they have the virus” (*Options to Reduce Quarantine for Contacts of Persons with SARS-CoV-2 Infection Using Symptom Monitoring and Diagnostic Testing* 2020).

When students are called in by a parent or guardian as “self-quarantine” (not actively infected with COVID-19), the attendance office staff will code the student for an absence length of ten days since the last contact with the positive covid case. (Last day of contact is Day Zero. Day Ten is a “through” day. Day 11 a person may return to normal activity).

Parents and Guardians will have the option to keep their student home for a 14 day quarantine if they chose to without penalty. It will be the responsibility of the parent to notify the school attendance office of the additional days out (4 days). Persons can continue to be quarantined for 14 days without testing per existing recommendations. This option maximally reduces risk of post-quarantine transmission risk and is the strategy with the greatest collective experience at present.

These recommendations are based on the best information available in November 2020 and reflect the realities of an evolving pandemic. The CDC, Wisconsin DHS, Wisconsin DPI and our local health department, will continue to closely monitor the evolving science for information that would warrant reconsideration of these recommendations.

### **References**

Options to Reduce Quarantine for Contacts of Persons with SARS-CoV-2 Infection Using Symptom Monitoring and Diagnostic Testing. (2020, December 2). Retrieved January 05, 2021, from <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/more/scientific-brief-options-to-reduce-quarantine.html>