

## High-Level Summary of Outbreak Control Measures for LTCHs, RHs, CLSs

		Suspect	Confirmed	
		Outbreak Definitions		<b>COVID-19</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ One RAT or PCR positive resident who has reasonably acquired the infection in the home.</li> </ul>
<b>Influenza</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ One laboratory-confirmed case of influenza.</li> </ul>	<b>Confirmed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Two cases within 48 hours with any common link (e.g., unit, floor) AND at least one case is lab-confirmed with influenza.</li> </ul>			
<b>Respiratory (other)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Two cases of respiratory illness within 48 hours with any common link (e.g., unit, floor).</li> </ul>	<b>Confirmed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Three cases of respiratory illness within 48 hours with any common link (e.g., unit, floor) <b>-OR-</b></li> <li>✓ Two cases of acute respiratory illness within 48 hours with any common link (e.g., unit, floor) AND at least one case is lab-confirmed.</li> </ul>			
<b>Enteric</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ If an outbreak is suspected, notify your local health unit to support you with the investigation and management.</li> </ul>	<b>Confirmed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Two or more cases of gastroenteritis within 48 hours with any common link (e.g., unit, floor) with initial onset within a 48-hour period.</li> </ul>			
Case Management		Outbreak Type	Long-Term Care & Retirement Homes	Congregate Living Settings
		COVID-19	<b>Case Isolation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>10 days from symptom-onset or test date, if asymptomatic.</b></li> <li>✓ After 5 days, the case may come out of their room IF fever-free and symptoms have been improving for 24 hrs AND they can appropriately mask. They must not take part in activities that involve mask removal, for 10 days from symptom-onset date.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>5 days from symptom-onset date or test date, if asymptomatic.</b></li> <li>✓ After 5 days, isolation may be discontinued IF the case is fever-free and symptoms have been improving for 24 hrs. For 10 days from symptom onset, case should maintain distance from others &amp; wear a mask, except when eating &amp; sleeping.</li> </ul>
Contact Management		Respiratory (non-COVID-19)	<b>Additional Precautions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Droplet Contact:</b> Medical mask or N95, eye protection, gown &amp; gloves.</li> <li>✓ <b>Universal Masking:</b> Recommended for all suspect and confirmed COVID-19 outbreaks.</li> </ul>	<b>Additional Precautions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Droplet Contact:</b> Medical mask, eye protection, gown, &amp; gloves.</li> <li>✓ <b>Universal Masking:</b> Recommended for all suspect and confirmed respiratory outbreaks.</li> </ul>
		Enteric	<b>Assessment &amp; Monitoring</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Assess cases twice daily to identify new &amp; worsening symptoms.</li> </ul>	<b>Assessment &amp; Monitoring</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Assess cases at least once daily to identify new &amp; worsening symptoms.</li> </ul>
Contact Management		Respiratory (non-COVID-19)	<b>Antivirals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Consult with the resident physician or pharmacist about <b>treatment of COVID-19 cases.</b></li> </ul>	<b>Antivirals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Consult with the resident physician or pharmacist about <b>treatment of influenza cases.</b></li> </ul>
		Enteric	<b>Case Isolation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Until 48 hours after symptom resolution. Note: The duration of isolation should be extended to 72 hours after symptom resolution for Norovirus outbreaks.</li> </ul>	<b>Case Isolation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Generally, <b>5 days from symptom-onset date or until symptom-free, whichever is sooner.</b> Note: The duration of isolation may be extended for pathogens with a longer infectious period such as RSV &amp; hMPV.</li> </ul>
Contact Management		Respiratory (non-COVID-19)	<b>Additional Precautions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Contact:</b> Gown &amp; gloves. Note: Medical mask &amp; eye protection should be used if there is a risk of aerosolization (i.e. projectile vomiting or explosive diarrhea).</li> </ul>	<b>Additional Precautions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Contact:</b> Gown &amp; gloves. Note: Medical mask &amp; eye protection should be used if there is a risk of aerosolization (i.e. projectile vomiting or explosive diarrhea).</li> </ul>
		Enteric	<b>Case Isolation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Until 48 hours after symptom resolution. Note: The duration of isolation should be extended to 72 hours after symptom resolution for Norovirus outbreaks.</li> </ul>	<b>Case Isolation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Generally, <b>5 days from symptom-onset date or until symptom-free, whichever is sooner.</b> Note: The duration of isolation may be extended for pathogens with a longer infectious period such as RSV &amp; hMPV.</li> </ul>
Contact Management		Outbreak Type	Long-Term Care & Retirement Homes	Congregate Living Settings
		COVID-19	<b>Roommate Close Contacts</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Isolate on additional precautions</b> for 5 days from the date the case became symptomatic or tested positive, if asymptomatic.</li> <li>✓ Instruct to <b>wear a mask</b>, if tolerated, when receiving care &amp; outside their room, and <b>distance from others</b>, for 7 days from last exposure to the case.</li> <li>✓ Monitor for symptoms twice daily.</li> </ul>	<b>Asymptomatic Close Contacts (all)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Do not need to isolate</b> or be placed on additional precautions.</li> <li>✓ Instruct to <b>wear a mask</b>, if tolerated, and <b>distance from others</b>, for 7 days from last exposure to the case.</li> <li>✓ <b>Cohort</b> separately from non-exposed residents and isolate and test promptly if symptoms start</li> </ul>

		<b>Non-Roommate Close Contacts</b>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Do not need to isolate or be placed on additional precautions.</li> <li>✓ Instruct to <b>wear a mask</b>, if tolerated, and <b>distance from others</b>, for 7 days from last exposure to the case.</li> <li>✓ <b>Cohort</b> separately from non-exposed residents and isolate and test promptly if symptoms start</li> </ul>		
	<b>Respiratory (non-COVID-19)</b>	<b>Roommate Close Contacts</b>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Isolation is not required. Close contacts should wear a mask, if tolerated, and maintain distance from others for 10 days from symptom-onset in the case and they should be monitored for symptoms at least once daily.</li> </ul>		
		<b>Non-Roommate Close Contacts</b>		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Isolation is not required. Should be encouraged to wear a mask, if tolerated, and physically distance from others for 7 days following their last exposure to the case and they should be monitored for symptoms at least once daily.</li> </ul>		
<b>Antivirals</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Initiate antiviral prophylaxis for well residents during confirmed influenza outbreaks, per PHU direction/facility policy.</b></li> <li>✓ <b>Important:</b> Only some settings are eligible for <b>antiviral prophylaxis during influenza outbreaks</b>. Antiviral prophylaxis should be addressed in facility policies to ensure there are no delays in providing medication during an outbreak.</li> <li>✓ For more information, refer to <b>Appendix B</b> in the <a href="#">Recommendations for Outbreak Prevention and Control in Institutions and Congregate Living Settings</a>.</li> </ul>				
<b>Symptomatic Staff</b>	<b>Type of Illness</b>	<b>Long-Term Care &amp; Retirement Homes &amp; Congregate Living Settings</b>		
	<b>Respiratory</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Staff with new &amp; unexplained respiratory symptoms should be directed to self-isolate until symptoms have been improving for 24 hours and no fever present</li> </ul>		
	<b>Gastroenteritis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Staff with new &amp; unexplained enteric symptoms should be directed to self-isolate until 48 hours after symptoms resolve. This may be modified once the pathogen is known i.e. 72 hours for norovirus cases.</li> </ul>		
<b>Outbreak Testing</b>	<b>Outbreak Type</b>	<b>Long-Term Care &amp; Retirement Homes</b>	<b>Congregate Living Settings</b>	
	<b>Respiratory</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Refer to PHOL test information index for more information on specimen collection, storage, and transportation: <a href="#">Respiratory Outbreaks</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Consult with your local PHU for outbreak testing recommendations.</li> </ul>	
	<b>Enteric</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Refer to PHOL test information index for more information on specimen collection, storage, and transportation: <a href="#">Enteric Outbreaks</a>.</li> </ul>		
<b>Working at Other Facilities</b>	<b>Outbreak Type</b>	<b>Long-Term Care &amp; Retirement Homes &amp; Congregate Living Settings</b>		
	<b>All Outbreaks (except influenza)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Well staff that work in multiple settings/locations, should advise the other settings/locations of the outbreak to determine if they should continue working in multiple places.</li> </ul>		
	<b>Influenza</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ The influenza vaccination status or antiviral use status of unvaccinated staff should be considered in the decision. Generally, vaccinated staff and staff who are taking antivirals may work at multiple facilities.</li> </ul>		
<b>Outbreak Resolution</b>	<b>Outbreak Type</b>	<b>Long-Term Care &amp; Retirement Homes &amp; Congregate Living Settings</b>		
	<b>COVID-19</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ No new cases, which were reasonably acquired in the setting, have occurred for 7 days, and there is no evidence of ongoing transmission.</li> </ul>		
	<b>Respiratory (other)</b>	<p>Whichever is longer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ One incubation period + one infectious period after symptom onset date in last resident case</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>-OR-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ One incubation period from the last day of work of an ill staff case if they worked while infectious.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> If symptoms in the last resident case resolve sooner than 5 days, or if the last case is a staff member who was away from work during their infectious period, the time until the outbreak can be declared over can be shortened accordingly.</p>		
	<b>Enteric</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 48 hours from symptom resolution in the last case.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>-OR-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ No new cases after one infectious period plus one incubation period.</li> </ul>		
<b>Outbreak Review</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ What was handled well and what could be improved in managing future outbreaks?</li> <li>✓ Identify recommendations for future preventive actions and/or necessary policy/protocol changes.</li> <li>✓ Identify possible reasons for the outbreak and steps to prevent similar outbreaks in the future.</li> </ul>			

Reference: [Recommendations for Outbreak Prevention and Control in Institutions and Congregate Living Settings Ministry of Health Effective: April 2024](#)