

Updated Guidance for Quarantine following a COVID-19 Exposure

Quarantine helps prevent spread of disease that can occur before a person knows they are sick or if they are infected with the virus without feeling symptoms. People in quarantine should stay home, separate themselves from others and monitor their health.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) recently updated their quarantine guidance. Updated guidance is available here:

(https://www.azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/infectious-disease-epidemiology/novel-coronavirus/public-resources/release-from-isolation.pdf)

What is the new guidance?

While a 14-day quarantine is still recommended, some individuals who remain asymptomatic may be eligible to shorten the 14-day quarantine period. According to the updated guidance, quarantine can end on day 11 without a coronavirus test. Alternately, quarantine can end on day eight if someone obtains a negative test result. The specimen must be collected on or after day six of quarantine. People who wish to shorten their quarantine must monitor for symptoms for the full 14-days, wear a mask, and physically distance themselves from others.

The two avenues for a shorten quarantine: a non-testing strategy and a testing strategy are described on pages 2-3 of the ADHS guidance. It is important to note that this only applies to individuals who do not live in a congregate setting.

COVID-19 Information Line: 928- 679-7300 www.coconino.az.gov/covid19