



BC Centre for Disease Control
Provincial Health Services Authority

Communicable Diseases and Immunization Service
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Date: January 21, 2022

Administrative Circular: 2022:04

ATTN: Medical Health Officers and Branch Offices
Public Health Nursing Administrators and Assistant Administrators
Holders of Communicable Disease Control Manuals

Re: Update to Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 1: Communicable Disease Control: COVID-19 Interim Guidelines

Please replace the following section from the Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 1: Communicable Disease Control: COVID-19 Interim Guidelines (January 11, 2022) with the COVID-19 Interim Guidelines (January 21, 2022).

The main changes are:

1. The recommendations for ceasing isolation of cases that are not under a federal quarantine order have been updated as follows (outlined in further detail in Table 2a):
 - **Fully immunized individuals and individuals < 18 years of age regardless of vaccination status** with asymptomatic, mild or moderate illness can cease isolation after 5 days from onset of symptoms (or test date for asymptomatic cases), provided fever has resolved for 24 hours and symptoms have improved.
 - **Unimmunized or partially immunized individuals \geq 18 years of age** with asymptomatic, mild or moderate illness can cease isolation after 10 days from onset of symptoms (or test date for asymptomatic cases), provided fever has resolved for 24 hours and symptoms have improved.
 - There is no changes to isolation recommendations **for those with severe or critical illness, and those who are moderately immune compromised**. These cases can cease isolation after 20 days from onset of symptoms (or test date for asymptomatic cases), provided fever has resolved for 24 hours and symptoms have improved.
2. The Contact Identification and Management section has been revised to reflect the focus of public health efforts towards those who are vulnerable to severe illness. These changes address the goals to minimize severe illness while enabling societal function and alleviating pandemic-related fatigue in the population. All contacts, regardless of vaccination status, are no longer required to self-isolate, but should self-monitor for the appearance of symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and continue to follow general public health measures and orders. If symptomatic, refer to the [COVID-19: Viral Testing Guidelines for British Columbia](#) for testing recommendations.

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3. The Active Daily Monitoring forms (for cases and contacts) have been removed.
4. Content related to interjurisdictional notifications has been removed.
5. Appendix 5: Testing thresholds for cases and contacts has been removed. Direction regarding testing recommendations can be found in the [COVID-19: Viral Testing Guidelines for British Columbia](#)

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Stephanie Meier, Senior Practice Leader, BCCDC (telephone: 604-707-2577 / email: stephanie.meier@bccdc.ca).

Sincerely,

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Physician Epidemiologist
BC Centre for Disease Control

pc:

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