

Conditions for workers who are released from quarantine to work

These conditions are to be read in conjunction with the *COVID-19 DoH Workers who are Close Contacts to Continue to Work, Subject to Conditions Policy*, of which this document is **Attachment 2**.

I. **Conditions for workers in healthcare settings who are close contacts and are critically necessary for a clinical service, to be released from quarantine to work**

a. **During the seven days after close contact with a case:**

The worker (a close contact) must remain in quarantine for the first seven days after exposure other than to attend work, if granted a release.

They may attend work following approval subject to the following conditions:

- Must always wear a mask outside the home
 - Must not attend work if symptomatic
 - Minimum testing requirements (higher levels of testing may be required by the workplace):
 - A negative rapid antigen test (RAT)* on the day of returning to work or a negative polymerase chain reaction (PCR)* test two or three days after exposure is the minimum testing required before returning to work
 - Subsequent testing requirements:
 - Daily test (RAT or PCR)* before work for each shift up to seven days after exposure
- OR
- If RAT is unavailable, second daily PCR test up to up to seven days after exposure
- Wear a surgical mask, at minimum, while at work, or any higher level of PPE required by the workplace
- Must not remove mask in any shared/communal spaces including tearooms and offices
- Must immediately leave the workplace and have a PCR test if they develop symptoms.

b. **During days eight to 14 after close contact with a case:**

- Must complete quarantine requirements for seven days after last close contact with a case.
- Must comply with other conditions required of close contacts
- Must always wear a mask outside the home
- Must not attend work if symptomatic
- Must observe testing requirements:
 - Test (RAT or PCR)* every three days until 14 days post exposure (i.e. days eight, 11 and 14)
- Must wear a surgical mask, at minimum, while at work
- Must not remove mask in any shared/communal spaces including tearooms and offices
- Must immediately leave the workplace if they develop symptoms and have a PCR test

* or other test for COVID-19 consistent with current DoH policy

2. Conditions for healthcare workers who are close contacts and are not critically necessary for a clinical service, to be released from quarantine to work during days eight to 14 after close contact with a case

The worker must:

- have completed quarantine requirements for seven days after last close contact with a case,
- comply with other conditions required of close contacts,
- always wear a mask outside the home,
- not attend work if symptomatic,
- observe testing requirements:
 - Test (RAT or PCR)* every three days until 14 days post exposure (i.e. days eight, 11 and 14),
- wear a surgical mask, at minimum, while at work,
- not remove mask in any shared/communal spaces including tearooms and offices,
- immediately leave the workplace if they develop symptoms and have a PCR* test.

* or other test for COVID-19 consistent with current DoH policy