

Bulletin #211: COVID-19 Information

Sept. 1, 2022



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COVID-19 Bulletin



[Health Care Worker \(HCW\) Scenario Guideline Update](#)

HCW scenario guidelines have been updated to reflect the most recent scientific research related to the amount of time required to remain out of the workplace and testing parameters for COVID-19.

Two **new** documents were published as a supplement to our HCW scenario guidelines.

1. [Summary of HCW Scenario Guidelines](#): contains guidance from all three strategy levels in one document for easy reference
2. [Frequently Asked Questions](#): contains questions and answers relevant to action you are required to take as a HCW for COVID-19

The updated guidelines and the two new documents (Summary

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of HCW Scenario Guidelines and Frequently Asked Questions) can be found on the [Employee Health COVID-19 Resource Page](#) on Skyline.

Thank you for your continued diligence with COVID-19 protocols. We appreciate your commitment to the safety of our workplace.



[IPC Outbreak Management Protocol and Isolation Precautions](#)

The Infection Prevention and Control COVID-19 Guidance documents regarding Exposure and Outbreak Management are currently under review for the potential to improve efficiencies while maintaining patient safety.

In the interim, the ID/IPC COVID-19 Committee recommends the following practices be followed:

- Discontinue isolation precautions for recovered patients on outbreak units.

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- Transfer recovered patients out of ward/semi-private rooms and cohort them with other recovered patients to provide a buffer area between newly admitted and exposed patients.
- Newly admitted patients to an outbreak unit will not require isolation precautions unless a new COVID-19 patient is identified on the unit.



Physical Distancing Requirements

The ID/IPC COVID-19 Committee recommends the following:

- The physical distancing requirement in meeting rooms and amphitheatres be reduced from two metres to one metre to increase seating capacity.
 - Continuous masking will be maintained.
 - Food and drinks are not permitted.
 - Virtual meetings are recommended when possible.
- The physical distancing requirement in Emergency Departments and Ambulatory Care Services general waiting rooms be reduced from two metres to one metre.
- In Emergency Departments waiting room chairs in the Hot/Red Zones will be spaced to comply with the two-metre distance requirement.

- The Ambulatory Care/Outpatient Services pre-procedure/recovery area will maximize the distance between each bed space (to comply with two-metre distance requirement); occupied bed spaces are separated by a closed privacy curtain and have an accessible alcohol-based hand rinse (ABHR) dispenser. When two-metre physical distance cannot be maintained between each bed space, ensure privacy curtains are closed.
- The physical distancing in cafeterias and departmental Lunchrooms will be maintained at two metres.

Please visit the [IPC Resources COVID-19 Skyline page](#) for COVID-19 information.

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