

DISCHARGE PROTOCOL FOR PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN IN COVID-19 ISOLATION FACILITIES

PLAN FOR DISCHARGE

- 1. Patient discharge is planned for DAY 3 of being ABSOLUTELY asymptomatic, when they should be sent to the appropriate Transition Isolation Facility. (Transfer occurs on Day 3 of No Symptoms).**

TESTING

- 2. The patient is swabbed and tested on DAY 4 of being after being asymptomatic.**
 - a. If a negative result is obtained, the swabbing is repeated after 48 hours. If the 2nd negative result is obtained at this time the patient is discharged for home.
 - b. If a positive result is obtained, the testing is repeated **every 4 days** until a negative result is obtained. The swab is repeated after 48 hours to confirm this negative result. **The patient is discharged when there are 2 consecutive negative tests.**

IPC within 14 days

- 3. In the 14 days after discharge, the discharged persons:**
 - a. Must wear surgical mask for 14 days
 - b. Must limit unnecessary contact with persons and maintain the IPC measures for standard and contact transmission

7-day Follow up

4. There should be at least a follow up call **Day 7** after discharge by the health department to ascertain the person's clinical status and that they are adhering to the IPC advice, advice of wearing mask and social distancing which had been previously recommended. The status of the mental health of the individual should be determined also.

14-day Follow up

5. There should be a clinical visit 14 days after discharge to do physical checks including: **routine SOAP**, vital signs and pulse oximetry, and possibly for 12 lead ECG. Again Mental health check should also be done at this time.

Please note there should be a blood sample drawn:

- **10 mls of blood in a red top tube: labelled CONFIRMED COVID POSITIVE 14 day Follow up.**
- **The test request for COVID Serology, send to the National Public Health Lab (NPHL), attention Dr Goffe.**

Health Alert Card

6. Medical Alert Card should be issued at the time of discharge urging patients to call the **Parish Health Department** (with attached numbers) in the event of COVID related symptoms including: chest pains, shortness of breath, fever, wheezing, palpitations or otherwise.



References:

1. World Health Organization. Report of the WHO-China Joint Mission on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). 16-24 February 2020
2. Centre for Disease Control and Prevention. Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Disposition of Patients with COVID-19 in Healthcare Settings (Interim Guidance). 2020
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-hospitalized-patients.html> Accessed on 7 April 2020
3. European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control Technical Report. Novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2): Discharge criteria for confirmed COVID-19 cases – When is it safe to discharge COVID-19 cases from the hospital or end home isolation? 2020
4. Diagnosis and Treatment Protocol for COVID-19 (Trial Version 7) issued by the General Office of the National Health Commission and the Office of the National Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine)