



Alameda County Health Advisory

Interim Quarantine Guidance for Vaccinated Health Care Personnel

February 22, 2021

CDC has recently released [additional quarantine guidance](#) for persons fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Vaccinated persons with an exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 are not required to quarantine if they meet all of the following criteria:

- Are fully vaccinated (i.e., ≥ 2 weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series, or ≥ 2 weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine)
- Are within 3 months following receipt of the last dose in the series
- Have remained without [symptoms](#) since the current COVID-19 exposure.

The Alameda County Public Health Department (ACPHD) has updated [Health Officer Order 20-06](#) (Blanket Isolation/Quarantine Order) to align with CDC recommendations.

The purpose of this interim guidance is to clarify options available to fully vaccinated Health Care Personnel (HCP) who have had [close contact](#) or a [high-risk exposure](#) with someone with a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 infection. This guidance is subject to change as more information on vaccinated individuals becomes available.

1. Fully vaccinated HCP with a high-risk exposure within a healthcare setting, or close contact with a known case in the community, do not need to quarantine, but may be excluded from work.
2. If asymptomatic fully vaccinated HCP have a [high-risk exposure](#), including an exposure outside of the health care setting, **AND** the facility is not experiencing a staffing shortage, facilities should consider excluding the HCP from work for 10 days after the exposure (defined as Day 0), with continued symptom monitoring through Day 14.
 - a. Consider excluding HCP who have routine close contact with people at high risk of severe disease (e.g., severely immune-suppressed patients), or who live or work in congregate settings (e.g., long term care), for [14 days after exposure](#).
3. If the facility is experiencing a staffing shortage, the facility should prioritize shortening or forgoing work exclusions for asymptomatic fully vaccinated HCP over unvaccinated HCP—unvaccinated HCP should be the last to return to work before the [ACPHD criteria to end quarantine](#) have been met. Refer to the [CDC Strategies to Mitigate Healthcare Personnel Staffing Shortages](#) for more detailed guidance.



**Alameda County Health Care Services Agency
Public Health Department**

www.acphd.org

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4. Guidance for unvaccinated HCP has not changed—in most cases unvaccinated HCP should quarantine for 10-14 days following a [high-risk exposure](#) within the healthcare setting, or [close contact](#) with a known case in the community.

Resources

[ACPHD- Health Officer Order 20-06](#)

[ACPHD- How Long Should I Stay in Quarantine?](#)

[CDC- Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the US](#)

[CDC- Interim U.S. Guidance for Risk Assessment and Work Restrictions for Healthcare Personnel with Potential Exposure to SARS-CoV-2](#)

Contact Information

Alameda County Acute Communicable Disease Control:

- Weekdays 8:30AM – 5PM Phone: (510) 267–3250
- After-Hours Phone: (925) 422–7595 and ask for the public health duty officer on call

Berkeley Public Health Division:

- Weekdays 8AM – 5PM Phone: (510) 981–5292
- After-Hours Phone: (510) 981–5911 and ask for the Health Officer on call