

Management of Positive Cases and Outbreaks (December 2022)

Admissions:

- Screen new admissions for symptoms of COVID-19.
- Do not exclude individuals who test positive or have symptoms. Make every attempt to physically separate individuals who test positive or have symptoms.
- New admissions are not required to quarantine on admission regardless of vaccination status.
- Do not close a facility to admissions, even if there are cases in the facility.

Staffing Considerations:

Case Isolation:

- Space individuals who test positive at least 6 feet away from other clients. Use screens to physically separate clients who test positive from those who don't. If possible, use a private room.
- There is no need to separate clients who test positive from each other. This is called cohorting.
- Isolation is 10 days but can be shortened with testing.
 - If an individual tests negative with a PCR test on day 5 or later, they can leave isolation on day 7.
 - If an individual tests negative with a rapid antigen on day 5 or later and then has a 2nd negative rapid antigen test 48 hours later, they can leave isolation after the 2nd negative test (no earlier than day 7)
 - If any of the tests are positive, the individual should remain in isolation until day 10. They do not need to have a negative test to come out of isolation on day 10.
- If a person's health status worsens, encourage them to call their provider for medical advice. If it is a medical emergency, call 911.
- Staff interacting with confirmed and possible COVID-19 cases in the shelter setting should wear surgical masks and eye protection.

Outbreak Response:

- Promptly identify clients and staff who are close contacts of confirmed and suspected cases. This can be done by traditional contact tracing or location-based contact tracing.
- Close contacts do not need to quarantine. They should be tested at day 5 after their last exposure to someone with COVID-19 or sooner if they develop symptoms. Individuals who develop symptoms should isolate while awaiting test results.
- Ensure strict masking of all clients who are close contacts of individuals with COVID-19.

Facility-Wide Actions:

- Maintain surveillance of clients and staff by monitoring for COVID-19 symptoms. Schedule a testing clinic for all clients and staff regardless of vaccination status through the PDPH Outbreak Surveillance Coordinator working with your site.
- All individuals in congregate facilities must continue to mask