



Wisconsin has adopted the updated CDC quarantine guidance for fully vaccinated people who are exposed to COVID-19

Summary

- The U.S Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) have issued modified public health recommendations for people who have been fully vaccinated for COVID-19. Provided that certain criteria are met, it is no longer required for vaccinated persons to quarantine following close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19.
- Wisconsin DHS endorses and supports adoption of this new standard for quarantine guidance and continues to emphasize that all Wisconsin residents should follow current guidance for stopping the spread of COVID-19, even after they are vaccinated. This includes wearing masks in public, avoiding large gatherings, staying 6 feet away from others, and following all other applicable workplace or school guidance.
- Because data about the duration of vaccine-induced protection are still accumulating, the duration of quarantine exemption for vaccinated persons is currently limited to the 90 days after receiving the last dose in a vaccine series.

On February 10, 2021, CDC issued updated quarantine guidance for vaccinated persons, specifying that fully vaccinated people who meet certain criteria will no longer be required to quarantine following an exposure to someone with COVID-19. DHS has adopted those guidelines as of February 12th, 2021. Specifically, vaccinated people with an exposure to someone with COVID-19 are not required to quarantine if they meet all of the following criteria:

- Are fully vaccinated (i.e., exposure occurs ≥ 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 90 days following receipt of the last dose in the series
- Have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure

All people who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 should monitor themselves for symptoms for 14 days after the last date of exposure, and should be evaluated clinically and get tested if they develop any symptoms of COVID-19. If vaccinated people do develop symptoms, they should be isolated pending the results of testing, in accordance with current recommendations.

Exceptions to the new quarantine recommendation exist for patients receiving inpatient care in a healthcare setting, and residents of long-term care facilities. Patients and residents in these settings should continue to follow prior guidance requiring quarantine for 14 days after the date of last exposure. This exception is due to the higher risk of severe illness and death among patients in these settings.

To learn more, visit:

Wisconsin DHS: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIDHS/bulletins/2c12294>

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/clinical-considerations.html>