**Introduction/Synopsis**

Inactive SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) virus can still be present up to 90 days post illness. These patients (if asymptomatic or with improving symptoms) are no longer deemed contagious after the 10/20 day period for removal of isolation for health care facilities. The CDC guidance for removal from isolation for the community (as early as after Day 5 of symptoms) does not apply. Refer to Guidance for Visitors and Outpatients with Recent COVID-19 Infection or Exposure.

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### Admission Testing After Prior Positive COVID-19 Test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Between Days 0 and Day 10/20*</th>
<th>Between Days 11/21* and Day 90</th>
<th>After Day 90</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Day 0 = Earliest Documented + COVID-19 Test</strong></td>
<td><strong>Depends if patient meets clearance criteria or has development of new COVID-19 symptoms</strong></td>
<td><strong>Treat patient as if never had COVID-19 infection</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Isolation/COVID-19 PPE?</td>
<td>Isolation Needed</td>
<td>Isolation Not Needed</td>
<td>Isolation Needed</td>
<td>Isolation Needed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symptoms Absent or Improved</th>
<th>Symptoms Persist/ Worsening</th>
<th>New Symptoms Develop</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

*Criteria for Clearance:*

**This applies to patients who have tested positive for COVID-19 prior to admission.** No fever x 24hrs, improved symptoms, and at least 10 (if not hospitalized or severe immunocompromise) or 20 days (if hosp/immunocompromised) since first + test. “Severe Immunocompromise”: Primary immune deficiency (e.g. Common Variable Immune Deficiency), HIV infection with CD4 count ≤200, chemotherapy in the past year, biologic immunosuppressant use (e.g. DMARDs, adalimumab, etanercept, etc), ≥20 mg/day prednisone (or equivalent) for ≥14 days, or history of solid organ or stem cell transplant.
Patient A and Patient B
Both patients test positive for COVID-19 on the same date.

Patient A’s symptoms are absent/improved.
Patient A is now cleared if not hospitalized or immunocompromised.

Patient B is still febrile and admitted to hospital.
No COVID-19 admission testing, but has not met clearance criteria + will need to be on isolation/COVID-19 PPE.

Patient B’s symptoms not improved/worsen.
Needs to stay on isolation despite being Day 21 since the first positive test.

Patient A was admitted without COVID-19 symptoms.
No need for COVID-19 admission testing and no need for isolation/COVID-19 PPE.

Treat patient as if never had COVID-19.

Closing/Guidance
Reinfection with COVID-19 has been rarely described and the concern is that persons infected may become susceptible again around 90 days after the onset of the infection. For persons recovered from COVID-19 infection, a positive PCR during the 90 days after illness most likely represents shedding of inactive viral RNA, which is not infectious.