



## **Interim Guidance for Discontinuation of Home Isolation for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)**

**March 16, 2020**

Unless otherwise instructed by their local health department, patients with COVID-19 who are not hospitalized should remain isolated at home until **one** of the following conditions is met:

1. At least 7 days since symptom onset **and**  $\geq 72$  hours after symptom resolution (absence of fever without the use of fever-reducing medication and improvement in respiratory symptoms), whichever is longer.

or

2. Absence of fever (without use of fever-reducing medication), improvement in respiratory symptoms, and 2 negative test results conducted on specimens collected at least 24 hours apart.

Healthcare providers and others who work in high-risk settings should check with their employer or occupational health program to determine whether additional criteria must be met before return to work.

For additional information, see [NC DHHS Guidance for Health Care Providers, Hospitals and Laboratories](#).

Note: Persons undergoing testing for COVID-19 (Persons Under Investigation) can be released from isolation if results of testing are negative.