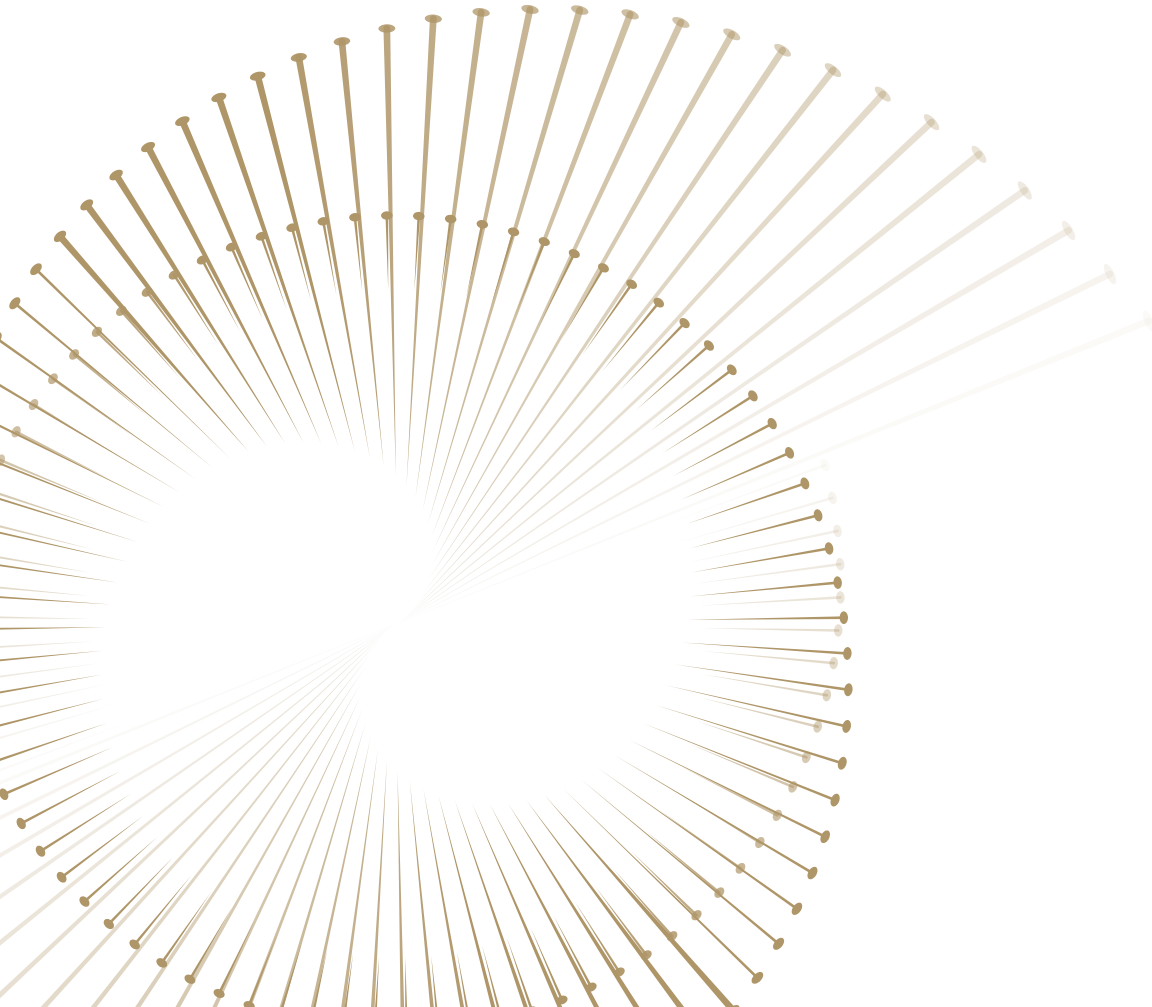
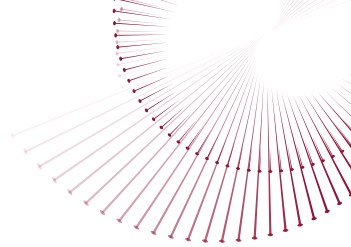


POLICY FOR MANAGEMENT OF COVID-19 POSITIVE CASES AND CLOSE CONTACTS





INTRODUCTION

This protocol is a flexible dynamic document. Some or all of the measures found within this document may be changed or modified in line with the implementation of new or revised measures issued subsequently by the MOPH and other relevant government authorities because of the changing status of the pandemic locally and internationally. It can also be modified as a result of new published evidence on circulating variants and their characteristics. It is worth noting that the date of issue of this policy is 15 November 2022 and is updated on 24 November 2022.

DEFINITIONS

Test positive

Any person who tests positive on Rapid Antigen Test or PCR for COVID-19.

Cluster of COVID-19 infection

When 3 or more cases of COVID-19 are identified in a specific client group residing at the same accommodation.

Ehteraz

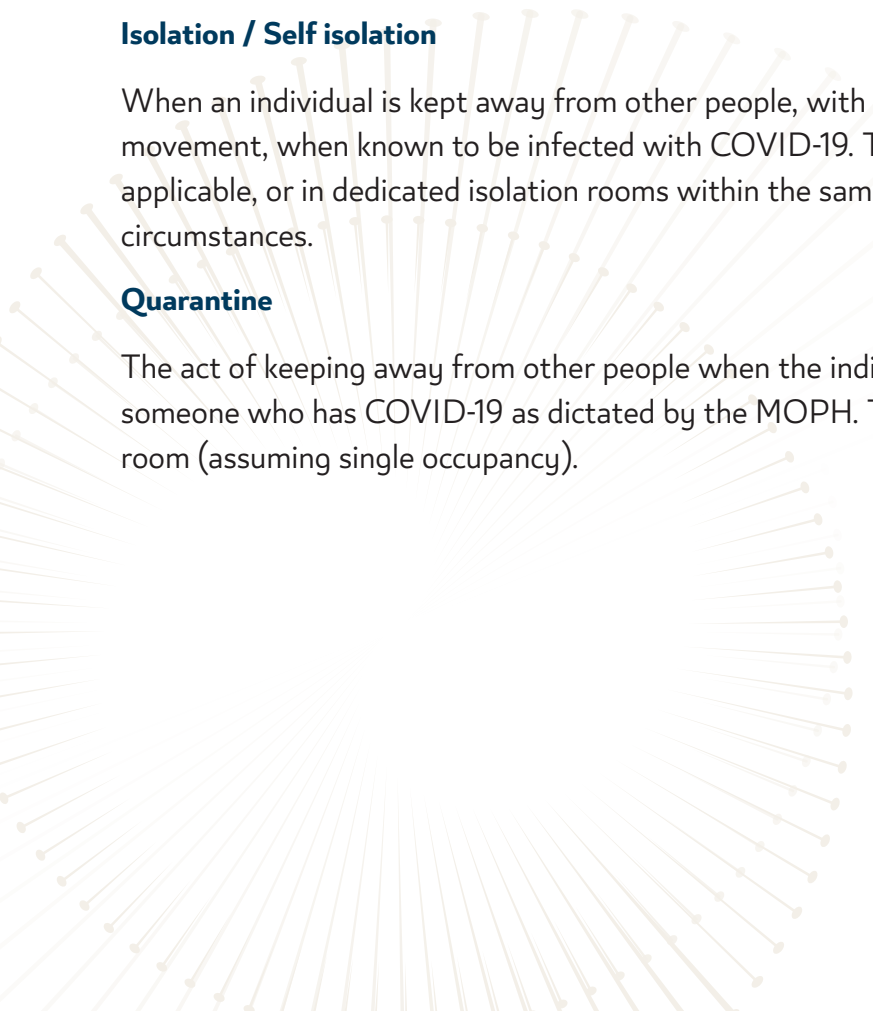
Ehteraz is the official contact tracing mobile phone application for the State of Qatar. It is available for download on iPhone and Android stores.

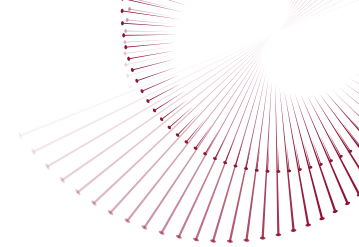
Isolation / Self isolation

When an individual is kept away from other people, with imposed restrictions on freedom of movement, when known to be infected with COVID-19. This can be done at home, another facility if applicable, or in dedicated isolation rooms within the same hotels of residence, depending on the circumstances.

Quarantine

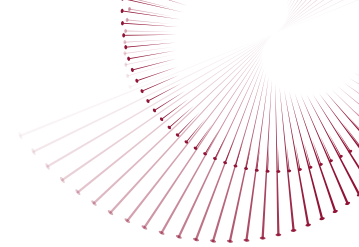
The act of keeping away from other people when the individual has been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 as dictated by the MOPH. This can be done in their own home or hotel room (assuming single occupancy).





TESTING AND ISOLATION/QUARANTINE REQUIREMENT FOR THE PUBLIC

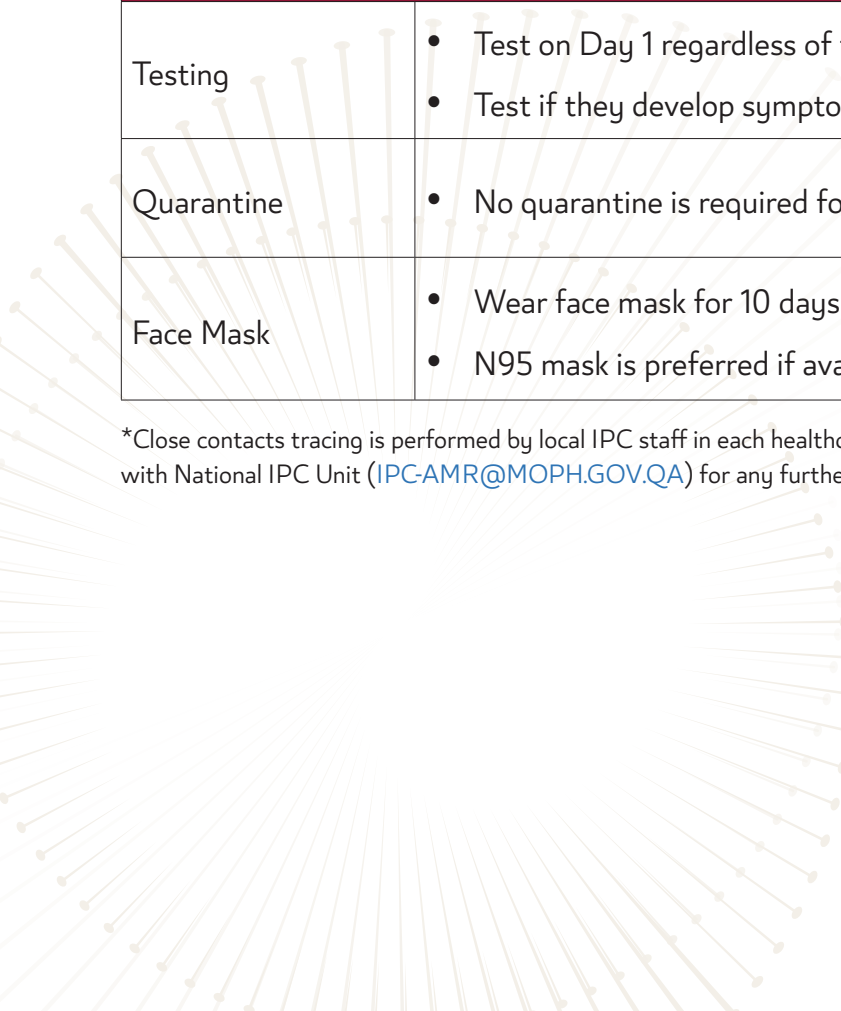
Criteria	Public
1. Patients Who Tested Positive for COVID-19	
Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Those who test positive on first test don't need to do a follow up test at end of isolation unless advised by healthcare practitioner
Isolation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">People who test positive for COVID-19 are expected to self-isolate for 5 days, however if they are not symptomatic or have mild symptoms, they may leave their isolation while strictly complying to the following precautions:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Wear a face mask, preferably N95 however if not available then surgical masks are acceptable.Keep their distance as much as possible from others. · Follow respiratory etiquette when coughing or sneezingSanitize their hands frequently particularly after coughing or sneezing.
Face Mask	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Wear mask for 5 days after discontinuing isolationN95 mask is preferred if available
Patients admitted to hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Patients admitted to hospital are managed by the treating physicians with regards to the duration of isolation, repeat testing and treatment
2. Close Contacts of COVID-19 Cases	
Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">No testing required, however testing is recommended if the contact is:<ul style="list-style-type: none">At high risk of developing severe COVID-19; e.g., immunocompromised, chronic conditions, older than 50 years (preferable to test in healthcare facility).Self-test if they are in close contact with high-risk individuals.Test at healthcare facility if they develop symptoms over the next 14 days.
Quarantine	<ul style="list-style-type: none">No quarantine is required for close contacts
Face Mask	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Wear face mask for 10 daysN95 mask is preferred if available

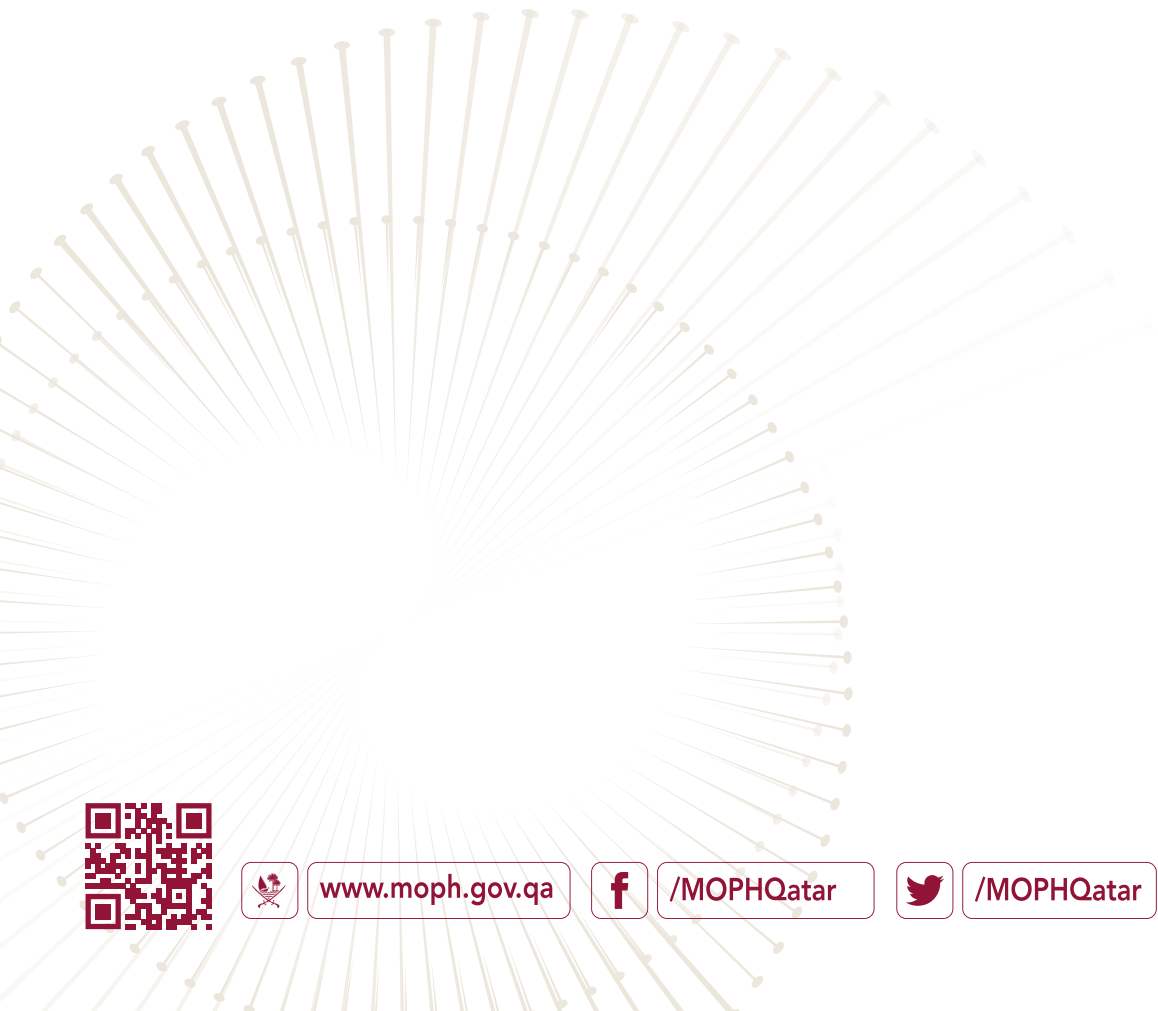
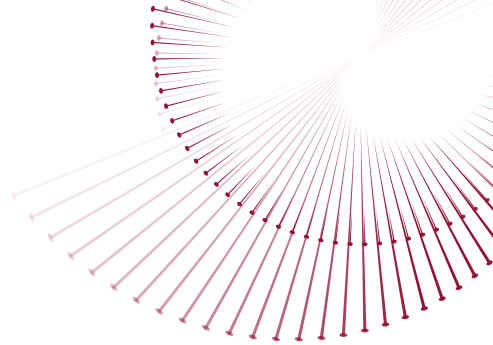


TESTING AND ISOLATION REQUIREMENTS FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS AND STAFF WORKING AT HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

Criteria	Healthcare Workers and Staff Working in Healthcare Facilities
1. HCWs and Staff Working in Healthcare Facilities who Tested Positive for COVID-19	
Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Those who test positive on first test don't need to do a follow up test at end of isolation unless advised by healthcare practitioner
Isolation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Self isolate for 5 days - No further testing required, however, if symptoms persist repeat testing is recommended before resuming work
Face Mask	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Wear face mask for 5 days after discontinuing isolationN95 mask is preferred if available
Patients admitted to hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none">HCW admitted to hospital for the management of COVID-19 are managed by the treating physicians with regards to the duration of isolation, repeat testing and treatment
2. Close Contacts of COVID-19 Cases*	
Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Test on Day 1 regardless of their immune statusTest if they develop symptoms over the next 14 days
Quarantine	<ul style="list-style-type: none">No quarantine is required for close contacts
Face Mask	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Wear face mask for 10 daysN95 mask is preferred if available

*Close contacts tracing is performed by local IPC staff in each healthcare facility as per established protocols and communicated with National IPC Unit (IPC-AMR@MOPH.GOV.QA) for any further interventions as deemed necessary.





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