

Government of India
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Directorate General of Health Services
(EMR Division)

Additional guidelines for quarantine of returnees from abroad / contacts / isolation of suspect or confirmed cases in private facilities

Scope

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has issued guidelines for home quarantine of contacts and home isolation of patients who have requisite accommodation at home for self-isolation as available at <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/Guidelinesforhomequarantine.pdf>.

There are large number of facilities such as hotels, service apartments, lodges which remain unoccupied due to impact of COVID-19 on travel and tourism. There are also instances where people who don't have requisite space at home may opt for such facilities. This is likely to reduce the pressure on the family, give comfort to the person, and protect the family members and immediate neighborhood.

Standard Operating Procedure

These standard operating procedures are applicable both for facility quarantine/ facility isolation in hotels, service apartments, lodges etc. unless and otherwise stated categorically. The State/UT government opting for this model will ensure that:

1. The quarantine and isolation facility will not co-exist and the facility owner will have a choice to dedicate the facility for either of the two.
2. These facilities will offer single room on paid basis to contacts/cases with attached washrooms.
3. The tariff for the accommodation and services shall be fixed by the facility in consultation with the state government and widely publicized.
4. The facility dedicated for isolation will follow the norms established for COVID Care Centre as available at -
<https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/FinalGuidanceonMangaementofCovidcasesversion2.pdf>
5. The cases shall only be kept in an isolation facility, if the cases are clinically assessed to be pre-symptomatic or very mild.
6. Such facility that opts for isolation will have separate earmarked areas for keeping suspect cases and confirmed cases and will ensure no inter-mingling of these two categories.
7. The contact/patient opting for such quarantine/isolation facility will give an undertaking as is available at -
<https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/GuidelinesforHomeIsolationofverymildpresymptomati cCOVID19cases.pdf>

8. The facility owner of the quarantine/isolation facility shall make such additional arrangements as under:
 - a. They shall ensure in-house availability of a trained doctor and a nurse on 24X7 basis.
 - b. The doctor will monitor the contacts/cases in quarantine/isolation facilities once a day on basic parameters of temperature, pulse, blood pressure, respiratory rate and pulse oxymetry and keep record of the same.
 - c. The doctor engaged by the facility will inform the District Surveillance Officer regarding the list of cases/contacts admitted to such facility and their health status.
 - d. The facility should network with an approved laboratory for testing samples as per ICMR guidelines.
 - e. The quarantined/isolated persons should not be allowed to meet visitors. They can talk on phone.
 - f. The facility will provide Wi-Fi facility and ensure that the client downloads the Aarogya Setu App on mobile (available at: <https://www.mygov.in/aarogya-setu-app/>) and it should remain active at all times (through Bluetooth and location service)
 - g. The facility should train its staff to call 108 free Ambulance service or any other Ambulance as per requirement.
 - h. The linens, towels etc. and rooms should be disinfected and the facility will follow infection prevention control practices as per guidelines available at <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/National%20Guidelines%20for%20IPC%20in%20HCF%20-%20final%281%29.pdf>
 - i. The in-house catering should only provide room services for freshly cooked food duly following physical distancing and environmental sanitation.
 9. The facility owner will give an undertaking to follow the above SOP and to have adequate manpower including the above mentioned health workers as per the prescribed protocol.
 10. Facility should ensure that the clear instructions for the contacts/cases are provided at the time of check-in as per MoHFW guidelines available at <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/Guidelinesforhomequarantine.pdf> and <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/GuidelinesforHomelsofationofverymildpresymptomaticCOVID19cases.pdf>
 11. The discharge of the contacts/cases from the facility will be in accordance with the discharge policy.
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*A contact is a healthy person who has been (i) in close (within 1 meter), unprotected (without appropriate personal protective equipment) contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19, or his/her bodily secretions or (ii) exposed to contaminated environment and is therefore at a higher risk of developing disease. (Additional details available at: <https://ncdc.gov.in/showfile.php?lid=538>). Such persons need to be put under **quarantine**. Persons being evacuated from COVID-19 affected countries are required to be quarantined.

#Person who have been clinically assigned as a symptomatic but very mild case/ laboratory confirmed but pre-symptomatic case by the treating medical officer (Additional details available at: <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/GuidelinesforHomelsofationofverymildpresymptomaticCOVID19cases.pdf>)Such persons need to be **isolated** to break the chain of transmission.