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Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services

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## **DMCPS Guidance for Facilities Required to Quarantine or Isolate**

*Issued by DMCPS for Congregate Care Facilities Contracted with DMCPS*

This document was created in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and is intended for use by all congregate care facilities where there is a child placed by the Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services (DMCPS).

This document should be used to supplement any information provided to you by medical professionals of any child(ren) in your care, and if there are any questions or discrepancies, immediately your local public health department.

DCF continues to issue guidance to all licensed facilities in the state of Wisconsin, and facilities should continue to reference the website for updates (<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/guidance>), or contact their child welfare licensing worker. Guidance will continue to be issued to providers as new information becomes available about this disease, and DCF creates resources to assist congregate facilities in the preparation and management of COVID-19.

### **DMCPS Pandemic Preparedness Steps**

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to minimize the spread of the virus to additional individuals, DMCPS has designated five (5) instances in which quarantine/isolation is required:

1. Children with known or suspected exposure to COVID-19, who are currently asymptomatic
2. Children exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 with no test
3. Children with positive or negative test results of COVID-19
4. Children with unknown exposure to COVID-19
5. Children with high-risk behaviors that continue to put themselves and others at risk for COVID-19

In all the above circumstances, facilities and the contracted agencies should immediately notify DMCPS of a child/facility in need of quarantine/isolation, per the "Notification to DMCPS regarding confirmed testing and/or exposure to COVID-19," issued on March 19, 2020. Once DMCPS receives notification through the [DCFDMCPSCOVID@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DCFDMCPSCOVID@wisconsin.gov) inbox. DMCPS will help facilities and agencies determine what level of quarantine/isolation is needed, the length of

quarantine/isolation, and where the child should be placed (in coordination with the child placing agency).

### **Milwaukee Quarantine/Isolation Locations: Where can children served by DMCPs be quarantined/isolated?**

1. In their **Current Placement**

Facilities should assist children in practicing self-quarantine/isolation behaviors at their current placement (if the child was residing in the placement prior to exposure/symptoms) in the following circumstances:

- a. The child was exposed to COVID-19 in the community, and returned to the licensed facility prior to knowledge of exposure
- b. The child is showing symptoms of COVID-19, and has not been tested (or is awaiting test results) without known community exposure

2. In a facility specifically designated for this purpose by DMCPs. These facilities are to be used *temporarily* and can only be accessed through DMCPs with prior approval by DMCPs Ongoing Services Section Manager or designee. There are two (2) types of facilities (three locations) that are currently available for this purpose:

a. **Quarantine Facilities** (Non-Symptomatic / Contact)

*This facility is to be used in the following circumstances:*

- The child was exposed in the community to COVID-19 and is not displaying symptoms of COVID-19
- The child's exposure to COVID-19 is unknown

b. **Isolation Facilities** (Symptomatic or Positive Case)

*This facility is to be used in the following circumstances:*

- The child has a positive or negative COVID-19 test
- The child is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 (awaiting test results or medical professionals do not believe testing is necessary)

### **Which children can be placed in the quarantine locations?**

DMCPs has contracted with specific facilities in Milwaukee County for children who are:

1. Entering out-of-home (OHC)
2. Returning to their OHC placement after an extended community pass that resulted in exposure (but did not return to placement and expose the placement resource)

*Note: this does not include children who frequently go missing from care, are exposed in the community and return to the same placement*

3. Exposed to COVID-19 at a temporary placement setting (i.e. hospital or inpatient stay)
4. Unable to remain in their previously established permanent placement due to extraordinary circumstances and have legitimate concerns of COVID-19 exposure

## Discontinuation of Quarantine or Isolation

Based on updated guidance from Wisconsin's Department of Health Services, DMCPs is recommending that all quarantine/isolation facilities follow the following protocol<sup>123</sup>:

### **For residents *with* symptoms from any cause**

Positive COVID-19 test or Negative COVID-19 test

If the child has tested positive for COVID-19, isolation may be discontinued when **both** of the following have occurred:

- 10 days have elapsed from 1<sup>st</sup> day of symptoms
- AND**
- Free from fever, productive cough and other acute symptoms of respiratory infection for 72 hours

If the child has tested negative for COVID-19, quarantine/isolation may be discontinued when the child is free from symptoms for at least 24 hours without the use of symptom-reducing medication

### **For residents *without* symptoms**

No COVID-19 test with Confirmed or Possible Community Transmission  
COVID-19 Positive Test

Quarantine may be discontinued when:

- 14 days have elapsed from 1<sup>st</sup> day of isolation
- AND**
- Have not developed any symptoms during isolation period

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-in-home-patients.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dph/memos/communicable-diseases/2020-08.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/ Diagnosed.htm>