Quarantine Guidance for Household and Close Contacts of a Person with COVID-19

Quarantine is for people who were exposed to someone with COVID-19 but haven't yet developed any symptoms of COVID-19[†] themselves. It prevents the spread of COVID-19 by asking people who *might* be infected to stay away from others until enough time has passed to be sure they don't have COVID-19.

If you were within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period or had physical contact with a person with COVID-19, you need to stay in quarantine at home for 10 days.

Quarantine means you need to:

- **Separate yourself** from the person (people) with COVID-19 in your home, if there are any.
- If possible, get tested for COVID-19 with a PCR or antigen (nose swab or saliva) test at the SEARHC Clinic. (Note: a negative test *might* allow you to end quarantine after 7 full days if you have not had any symptoms. See the Home Quarantine Guidance Flow Chart on the back of this page.)
- Stay at home for **10 days** after your last contact with the person with COVID-19, except to get essential medical care, prescriptions, and food. This includes: **Not** going to work, school, or public areas
 - § If you work in an essential service and do not have any symptoms[†] consistent with COVID-19 and must go to work during the 10-day quarantine period, you must wear a face mask when you are within 6 feet of other people and self-monitor for any new symptoms. You must get permission from the Public Health Nurse.
- Wash your hands and avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth, AND cover your coughs and sneezes.
- Avoid sharing household items like dishes, cups, eating utensils, and bedding.
- Clean high-touch surfaces (tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, etc.) daily.
- **Call ahead** before going to any medical appointments and tell your healthcare provider about you are a close contact with someone who has COVID-19.
- Continue to monitor your temperature & symptoms and wear a mask for <u>14 days</u> after your last contact with the person with COVID-19, regardless of when your quarantine period ends.

If you develop any symptoms consistent with COVID -19[†] during quarantine, you need to:

- **Get tested for COVID-19** with a PCR or antigen (nose swab or saliva) test at SEARHC Clinic. (Note: if you have had symptoms, a negative test **does NOT** allow you to end quarantine early.)
- Follow the symptomatic portion of the Home Quarantine Guidance Flow Chart (on the back of this page).

[†]Symptoms of COVID -19 can range from mild to severe illness and may include: Check the <u>CDC web site</u> for the latest list of COVID-19 symptoms.

- Cough
- Muscle or body aches
- Nausea or vomiting, diarrhea
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Headache
- Sore throat, congestion, or runny nose
- Fever or chills
- Fatigue
- New loss of taste or smell

