COVID Testing and Referral to Isolation, and Quarantine:
Clients of Residential Congregate Settings with access to COVID rapid test kits

Step 1: Contact the BCHD Outbreak Investigation team

What is the COVID-related concern?

Client recently **tested positive** for SARS-CoV-2

Has the individual met criteria to be released from isolation? 2

- **YES**
  - Isolation recommended. Refer to Lord Baltimore TRI Center (LBTC) as needed 443-984-8915
  - Ok to remain in residential facility.

- **NO**
  - Consider using rapid test kits to test closest contacts while awaiting support from the BCHD outbreak investigation team

Client with **symptoms** 3 of COVID-19

Ensure the client is wearing a mask, and separate the client from others while conducting rapid antigen testing 4

- **Rapid negative**
  - Ok to remain in residential facility. Repeat rapid antigen testing 24-48 hours later

- **Rapid positive**
  - Isolation recommended. Refer to Lord Baltimore TRI Center (LBTC) as needed 443-984-8915

Client was in **close contact** 5 with an individual who has confirmed COVID-19 and the client is asymptomatic

Client is **up-to-date** 6 with COVID vaccination

- **YES**
  - Client may remain in residential facility.
  - Test on day 5 after exposure.
  - Monitor closely for symptoms and ensure consistent masking for 10 days, and refer for testing and isolation if symptoms develop.

- **NO**
  - Has the individual met criteria to be released from quarantine? 7

  - **YES**
    - Ok to remain in residential facility
  
  - **NO**
    - Quarantine recommended. Refer to the LBTC as needed 443-984-8915

Client is **NOT up-to-date** 6 with COVID vaccination

- **YES**
  - Client may remain in residential facility.
  - Test on day 5 after exposure.
  - Monitor closely for symptoms and ensure consistent masking for 10 days, and refer for testing and isolation if symptoms develop.

- **NO**
  - Ok to remain in residential facility.

1. Report all COVID-19 related concerns for shelter clients to the Baltimore City Health Department outbreak investigation team. Contact the assigned outbreak investigator, or Kyle McDermott (kyle.mcdermott@baltimorecity.gov, 443-835-9116)
2. 10-day isolation is recommended, with day 0 being the date of symptom onset, and if asymptomatic the day of first positive test in the last 90 days. A shorter 5-day isolation period is recommended for the general public, but 10 days remains the recommendation for congregate settings. Your BCHD Outbreak Investigator may recommend a shorter isolation period in crisis situations (limited staffing or limited isolation space).
3. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea.
4. If rapid test kits are not available, pursue testing via HCH or any other testing resource and refer to isolation at the Lord Baltimore TRI Center while awaiting results
5. Close contact is defined as being less than 6 feet away from an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period
6. Up-to-date means a person has received all recommended COVID-19 vaccines, including any booster doses when eligible. [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html)
7. 10-day quarantine is recommended, with day 0 being the last date of close contact. A shorter 5-day quarantine is recommended for the general public, but 10 days remains the recommendation for congregate settings. Your BCHD Outbreak Investigator may recommend a shorter quarantine in crisis situations (limited staffing or limited quarantine space). Testing 5 days after exposure is recommended. [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html)