



CDPH AFL:**Guidance on Quarantine and Isolation for Health Care Personnel Exposed to SARS-CoV-2 and Return to Work for HCP with COVID-19****January 8, 2022**

Due to the critical staffing shortages currently being experienced across the healthcare continuum, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has released an All Facilities Letter that provides revised temporary isolation, quarantine, and return to work criteria for healthcare personnel. The pertinent section is excerpted below.

Temporary Isolation, Quarantine and Return to Work Criteria for HCP

- Due to the critical staffing shortages currently being experienced across the health care continuum because of the rise in the Omicron variant, effective January 8, 2022 through February 1, 2022, CDPH is temporarily adjusting the return-to-work criteria. During this time, this guidance will supersede the tables below.
- During this time, HCPs who have tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 and are asymptomatic may return to work immediately without isolation and without testing, and HCPs who have been exposed and are asymptomatic may return to work immediately without quarantine and without testing. These HCPs must wear an N95 respirator for source control. Facilities implementing this change must have made every attempt to bring in additional registry or contract staff and must have considered modifications to non-essential procedures.
- These HCPs should preferably be assigned to work with COVID-19 positive patients. However, this may not always be possible in settings such as the emergency department in which you may not know which patients are COVID-19 positive or in areas where you may be experiencing extreme staffing shortages.

Please see the full AFL here: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-21-08.aspx>

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