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**LAC DPH COVID-19 Update:  
Vaccinated Persons and Quarantine**

February 18, 2021



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*This message is intended for all healthcare providers in Los Angeles County.  
Please distribute as appropriate.*

### **Key Messages**

- Based on new CDC [recommendations](#) and CDPH [guidance](#), the LAC DPH COVID-19 quarantine requirements have been updated to include exceptions for vaccinated persons meeting specific criteria. See *Vaccinated Persons and Quarantine* below.
- At this time, all vaccinated persons must continue to adhere to all protective measures, including, but not limited to, wearing a mask and other job-specific PPE, maintaining their physical distance from non-household members, practicing hand hygiene, avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces, and staying home when sick.
- Updated and new DPH patient resources are available on [Masks](#) (including information regarding “double masking”) and [After you get a COVID-19 vaccine](#).

### **Vaccinated Persons and Quarantine**

Vaccinated persons\* who are a close contact to a confirmed case are not required to quarantine if they meet all of the following criteria:

1. Are fully vaccinated (i.e.,  $\geq 2$  weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose COVID-19 vaccine series or  $\geq 2$  weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose COVID-19 vaccine) **and**
2. Are within 3 months (90 days) following receipt of the last dose in the series **and**
3. Have remained asymptomatic since their last contact with the infected person.

Persons who do not meet all 3 of the above criteria are required to [quarantine](#) after exposure to a confirmed case.

Fully vaccinated persons who are not required to quarantine should be instructed to monitor their health for 14 days after their last contact with the infected person. If they experience symptoms, they must self-isolate pending clinical evaluation and SARS-CoV-2 testing, if indicated.

*\*Fully vaccinated inpatients and residents in healthcare settings (e.g. long-term care facilities) are to continue to follow quarantine guidance following an exposure. Healthcare facilities are to continue to use appropriate [transmission-based precautions](#) when caring for exposed inpatients or outpatients, regardless of vaccination status. Non-healthcare congregate settings such as shelters, jails, and prisons should follow sector specific guidance.*

*Fully vaccinated healthcare personnel with high-risk exposures may be permitted to work to alleviate staffing shortages. See [Healthcare Personnel Monitoring](#) and [EMS Personnel Monitoring](#).*

*Travel Advisory: LAC DPH is in discussion with CDPH regarding the current state [post-travel quarantine recommendations for all persons arriving in or returning to California from other](#)*

[states or countries](#). At this point in time, the LAC DPH [Travel Advisory](#) is unchanged. There is no exception to the 10-day quarantine for fully vaccinated persons.

**Rationale:**

The CDC has provided a rationale for this quarantine exemption for fully vaccinated persons. The currently authorized COVID-19 vaccines have demonstrated high efficacy at preventing severe and symptomatic COVID-19. There is, however, limited information on how much the vaccines might reduce transmission and how long protection lasts. In addition, the efficacy of the vaccines against emerging SARS-CoV-2 variants is not known.

Based on evidence to date, it is suspected that fully vaccinated persons are less likely to infect others if they do become infected. Additionally, the individual and societal benefits of avoiding unnecessary quarantine may outweigh the potential but unknown risk of transmission. The CDC recommendation to waive quarantine for people with vaccine-derived immunity aligns with quarantine recommendations for those with natural immunity, see Patients with a [Recent History of Recovery from COVID-19](#).

See CDC [Public Health Recommendations for Vaccinated Persons](#) for more information.

**Relevant Resources:**

- CDPH [COVID-19 Quarantine Guidance for Fully Vaccinated Persons](#)
- LAC DPH [COVID-19 Healthcare Provider Isolation and Quarantine](#) webpage

**Visit the LAC DPH COVID-19 Hub**

[ph.lacounty.gov/masks](http://ph.lacounty.gov/masks)

[ph.lacounty.gov/acd/ncorona2019/vaccine/aftervaccination](http://ph.lacounty.gov/acd/ncorona2019/vaccine/aftervaccination)



The COVID-19 hub has resources including [home isolation](#) and [home quarantine](#) guidance in web and PDF formats.

Refresh your browser to view the latest version [ph.lacounty.gov/acd/ncorona2019](http://ph.lacounty.gov/acd/ncorona2019)

This communication was sent by Sharon Balter, MD, Director, Division of Communicable Disease Control and Prevention, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

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