**Cohorting in Residential/Congregate Settings**

*Cohorting describes the practice of grouping individuals together who have similar characteristics or levels of risk. Symptomatic/sick people can and should be cohorted with other symptomatic/sick people. People who are not sick and non-symptomatic but have been exposed to or in close contact with symptomatic/sick person(s) should be also be cohorted with other exposed but non-symptomatic. This protects others from getting sick in case the exposed person develops symptoms. Cohorting reduces transmission risks.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Separated Residents</th>
<th>MINIMUM separation procedure</th>
<th>Non-Separated Residents</th>
<th>BEST PRACTICE separation procedure</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Symptomatic</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>(COVID-19 lab tested (+) and symptomatic residents)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Exposed</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>(exposed residents without symptoms)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>General Population</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>High Risk</strong></td>
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<td>(&gt; age 65, chronic medical conditions, pregnancy)</td>
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### Quarantine vs Isolation

**Symptoms**

- COVID-19 symptoms: fever, cough, shortness of breath, etc.

**No symptoms**

- Residents who have been exposed but have no symptoms.

**Symptoms**

- Residents who are not sick and not exposed.

**Cohorting**

- Grouping individuals together who have similar characteristics or levels of risk.

**Symptomatic/sick people** should be cohorted with other symptomatic/sick people.

**Exposed but non-symptomatic** should be cohorted with other exposed but non-symptomatic.

**Cohorting reduces transmission risks.**

### Clients

- In residential or congregate settings, clients should be separated from others for 14 days.
- In nonresidential or non-congregate settings, clients should be sent home with QUARANTINE instructions and offered telehealth or telephone services, as available.

### Staff

- Home QUARANTINE for 14 days.
- For critical shortages of essential workers, non-symptomatic staff may work with a mask during 14-day quarantine period AND self-monitor for fever and symptoms every 12 hours (including while at work).

### Quarantine Details

- **No symptoms**
  - Residents who have been exposed but have no symptoms.

- **Symptoms**
  - Residents who are not sick and not exposed.

- **Symptomatic**
  - COVID-19 symptoms: fever, cough, shortness of breath, etc.

- **Exposed**
  - (exposed residents without symptoms)

- **General Population**
  - (not exposed)

- **High Risk**
  - (> age 65, chronic medical conditions, pregnancy)

### Separated Residents

- (confirmed COVID-19 lab tested (+), COVID-19 symptoms, and exposed residents)

### Minimum separation procedure

- **Non-Separated Residents**
  - (not symptomatic and not exposed)

### Best practice separation procedure

- **Exposed**
  - (exposed residents without symptoms)

- **General Population**
  - (not exposed)

- **High Risk**
  - (> age 65, chronic medical conditions, pregnancy)