

COVID-19 Snowfield scenarios for persons who do not require hospitalisation

Isolation guidelines for confirmed COVID-19 cases

1. A person with confirmed COVID-19 who is well and does not require hospitalisation must remain in isolation. Most people can be managed in their own setting in isolation. Release from isolation will be based on clinical features, such as duration of illness and time elapsed since resolution of all symptoms. Persons visiting a snowfield who test positive for COVID-19 may decide to self-isolate in their own accommodation. Upon diagnosis:
 - a) Confirmed cases will need to travel to their accommodation directly. They can walk or travel by private car provided that they are well, wear a mask, maintain physical distancing at all times and practice good hand hygiene at all times. If private transport is not available to them, transport will be arranged by the LHD (e.g. patient transport) to take the person to their accommodation.
 - b) Confirmed cases cannot continue skiing. Home isolation requires them to stay in their room within their accommodation and restrict normal activities. They cannot go to work, school, childcare, university, recreation facilities, or public areas, or go shopping.
 - c) People who do not have an essential need to be in the accommodation must not visit while the case is in isolation. Confirmed cases can only leave their accommodation to seek medical care or because of an emergency.
 - d) If the person is sharing their accommodation with other household members, they must also self-isolate if considered a [close contact](#):
 - a. Separate themselves from the household members in the accommodation as much as possible.
 - b. Avoid shared or communal areas and wear a surgical mask when moving through these areas.
 - c. Practice good hand hygiene.
 - d. Ensure that there is enhanced cleaning of high-touch household surfaces and objects.
 - e. Not participate in communal dining, and seek support for food preparation.
 - f. Use a separate bathroom, if available. If this is not available, processes for enhanced cleaning and hygiene measures of shared bathrooms/toilets and maximising physical and temporal distancing must be in place.
 - g. Avoid contact with people who are at risk of severe disease, such as elderly people, immunocompromised people, and those who have heart, lung or kidney conditions, and diabetes.
 - h. If a household member develops symptoms, they must be tested immediately.
- e) If a person's illness was managed in isolation at their accommodation they can only be released from isolation once their doctor has confirmed:
 - a. at least 10 days have passed since the onset of symptoms; and
 - b. there have been no symptoms of the acute illness for the previous 72 hours.

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2. A person with confirmed COVID-19, is well and does not need hospitalisation should not self-isolate in shared accommodation. If isolation in current accommodation is not possible or appropriate (e.g. they are currently in a dormitory), the person may:

- a) If they have a private vehicle, drive to their place of residence where they can self-isolate. During the drive the person must wear a mask if there are other occupants in the car and if they need to stop along the way, but only if absolutely necessary.
- b) If driving home in a private vehicle and they need to get petrol or use public restrooms, they must wear a mask, maintain physical distancing at all times and practice good hand hygiene at all times. If they have filled their car with petrol, they must wipe the fuel pump handle at the petrol station down after use with antibacterial wipes. They should use contactless payment. They should not order food or drinks or stay at the petrol station or restrooms any longer than necessary. The LHD may want to provide them with a food and drinks package and antibacterial wipes to get them home and/or arrange for the car to have adequate fuel. The LHD may want to advise on appropriate places to stop, so that they can avoid busy areas.

Close (household) contacts of the positive person who will be also be required to self-isolate, may share the vehicle for this journey. This would normally apply to children. They must wear a mask, practice good hand hygiene and maintain physical distancing at all times. However, it is more appropriate that adult close contacts travel separately. The LHD may want to provide transport if other transport is not available to close household contacts.

- c) If the positive person does not have their own vehicle, transport will need to be arranged by the LHD (e.g. patient transport) to take the person to the nearest accommodation available for COVID-19 positive people (this may be a

designated hotel or sports / recreation facility or the persons main place of residence). Face masks must be worn during this journey.

- d) At no point should a COVID-19 positive person utilise public transport such as trains, buses or a ski tube. Taxi and ride-share should be avoided.
3. A person with confirmed COVID-19 who does not require hospitalisation and who resides in the snowfield area and is not a traveller to that area must remain in home isolation and follow the advice for confirmed cases. For persons who are living in shared accommodation facilities and unable to meet the requirements for self-isolation, transport will be arranged by the LHD (e.g. patient transport) to take the person to the nearest accommodation available for COVID-19 positive people (this may be a designated hotel or sports / recreation facility). Cases must wear a face mask during this journey and transport drivers will need to wear full PPE.

Infection Control Guidelines in the event of a confirmed COVID-19 case

4. Cleaning and disinfecting rooms of confirmed COVID-19 cases seek [Guidance for managers and staff at hotels and other accommodation facilities hosting people in COVID-19 quarantine isolation](#)
5. Cleaning and disinfecting rented ski equipment and gear for confirmed COVID-19 cases.

There should be a standard process for all ski gear cleaning and disinfection. After appropriate cleaning and disinfection there is no need to quarantine the item.

If a positive case is identified enhanced cleaning should be implemented. The items that have been in contact with others should be sanitised with a disinfectant wipe before storage and use.

A cleaning and disinfection process including laundry (where applicable) for the following items should be implemented.

- outwear jackets and pants,
- ski boots
- wet gloves,
- Outerwear or boots
- all other equipment's including goggles, helmets, face wear and gloves

Arrangements may need to be made to collect the items from the cases accommodation. This should be discussed with the local public health unit. Items will need to be clearly identified as possibly contaminated and should be handled sparingly until cleaned. The hire company should be provided with the necessary PPE required to clean items.

Isolation guidelines for close contacts of COVID-19

6. Close contacts of a confirmed COVID-19 case are required to self-isolate for 14 days after the last contact with the confirmed case. They are required to travel directly to the place where they will be undertaking their self-isolation. Contacts can travel to their main place of residence in the following way:

- a) If the close contact has a private vehicle, they may drive to their place of residence where they can self-isolate. During the drive the person must wear a mask and minimise stops along the way. If the drive is over 2 hours and they have to stop, they must wear a mask, practice good hand hygiene and maintain physical distancing at all times. If the drive is over 2 hours, the LHD may provide them with a food and drink package and antibacterial wipes to get them home and/or arrange for the car to have adequate fuel. The LHD may want to advise on appropriate places to stop, so that they can avoid busy areas.
- b) If the close contact is a member of the household of a confirmed case, they may share the vehicle for this journey. They have to wear a mask, practice good hand hygiene and maintain physical distancing at all times.

- c) A close contact may use public transport to travel to their place of residence if they are well and do not have symptoms. They must wear a mask and take the fastest possible route. They must practice good hand hygiene and maintain physical distancing at all times.
- d) A close contact may use a taxi or ride-share service to travel to their place of residence if they are well and do not have symptoms. They must sit in the backseat of the car, practice good hand hygiene, and wear a mask. The taxi service must be informed, and the driver should wear personal protective equipment.
- e) If the close contact does not have their own vehicle and is not able to get to their place of residence another way, they may be supported by the LHD to travel to their place of residence. This can be done using patient transport.

7. Close contacts of a confirmed COVID-19 case may decide to spend their 14-day isolation period in their existing accommodation in the snowfield area. This may be a hotel, motel or other form of accommodation, as long as they can stay there for the duration of the 14-day isolation period.

- a) People identified as close contacts will need to travel to their accommodation directly. They can walk or travel by private car, public transport, taxi or ride-share provided that they are well and follow the above advice.
- b) Close contacts cannot continue skiing. Home isolation requires a close contact to stay in their accommodation and restrict normal activities. They cannot go to work, school, childcare, university, recreation facilities, or public areas, or go shopping.
- c) People who do not have an essential need to be in the accommodation must not visit while they are in isolation. Close contacts can only leave their accommodation to seek medical care or because of an emergency.

8. Close contacts who are unable to get to their place of residence and/or do not have appropriate accommodation (e.g. only shared accommodation is available to them) for the 14-day isolation period may be supported by the LHD to get accommodation in the area.

- a) Close contacts can be moved to designated quarantine hotels in the area. Alternatively, they may be able to be accommodated in the local sports / recreation facility (note that consultation with the facility will be needed).
- b) The LHD can move close contacts to the hotel using patient transport.
- c) In circumstances where a close contact is not able to separate from other members of their household, they should also be isolated for 14 days (this would normally apply to children).

9. Close contacts are discouraged to self-isolate in shared accommodation unless there is no other option available to them. The LHD should try to move close contacts to designated hotels or sports / recreation facilities for quarantine. If there is no other option, the LHD should consult with the facility manager and do a risk analysis to adjust procedures and processes. The facility must develop strategies to lower the risk of transmission.

If close contacts spend their 14 days of self-isolation in shared accommodation, they must:

- a) Separate themselves from the other people in the accommodation as much as possible.
- b) Practice good hand hygiene.
- c) Ensure that there is enhanced cleaning of high-touch household surfaces and objects.
- d) Consideration of mealtimes and processes.
- e) Isolate in a single room as dormitory accommodation is associated with increased risk. If the close contact was

previously in a dormitory style room, the room needs to be deep cleaned.

- f) Use a separate bathroom, if available. If this is not available, processes for enhanced cleaning and hygiene measures of shared bathrooms/toilets and maximising physical and temporal distancing must be in place.
- g) Avoid shared or communal areas and wear a surgical mask when moving through these areas.
- h) Consideration of people who are at risk of severe disease, such as elderly people, immunocompromised people, and those who have heart, lung or kidney conditions, and diabetes.
- i) If a close contact develops symptoms, they must be tested immediately.

Where feasible to do so, PHU should conduct active daily monitoring of close contacts for symptoms for 14 days after the last possible contact with a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case

Isolation guidelines for people suspected to have COVID-19

10. A person with symptoms of COVID-19 should be tested and must remain in isolation while waiting the results of their test. They must follow the advice for suspected cases. The person may:

- a) If the person is part of a group and separate accommodation is not available for the person being tested, they may remain in isolation and separate from their household while tests are pending. If this is the case, they must follow the above advice for shared accommodation and separate themselves from others as much as possible.
- b) Where the person is booked into accommodation, and that accommodation booking expires while the test results is pending, and it is not possible to extend

the booking, the person and household members may:

- i) use their private vehicle to drive to their place of residence where they can safely isolate. During the drive they must wear a mask and not stop along the way (as per above advice).
- ii) If the person/household does not have their own vehicle, transport may be arranged by LHD to take the person to the nearest appropriate accommodation available (this may be a designated hotel or sports / recreation facility or the persons main place of residence). Face masks must be worn during this journey.

11. A person with symptoms of COVID-19 who resides in the snowfield area and is not a traveller to that area must be tested for COVID-19 and remain in home isolation while waiting on the results of their test. They must follow the advice for [suspected cases](#).
12. For persons who are living in shared accommodation facilities and where it is not possible for the person to self-isolate appropriately it may be necessary to consider arranging transport by the LHD (e.g. patient transport) to take the person to the nearest accommodation available for COVID-19 suspected people (this may be a designated hotel or sports / recreation facility). Cases must wear a face masks during this journey and transport drivers will need to wear full PPE.