Riverside County Public Health Local Guidance
for Community Providers
Positive or Assumed Positive COVID-19 Clearance Requirements

For Persons with COVID-19 under Home Isolation:
The decision to discontinue home isolation should be made in the context of local circumstances. **Providers clearing their patients must use the local guidelines.**

Riverside County Public Health has adopted modified non-test-based criteria for clearance of COVID-19 positive patients. Retesting for clearance is **not generally recommended** and may result in the isolation period being **extended.**

1.) **Non-test-based strategy** using a time-since-illness-onset and time-since-recovery approach. Persons with suspected COVID-19 who have symptoms and were directed to care for themselves at home may discontinue home isolation under the following conditions:

- Resolution of fever for at least 24 hours since the last fever spike without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- **AND** improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath, sore throat).
- **AND** at least 10 days have passed since the last positive test. **Encourage individuals not to retest.**

2.) The earlier **test-based strategy** which requires two negative NP swabs collected at least 24 hours apart is **no longer recommended by the CDC or the California Department of Public Health.**

Persons who have positive test results for COVID-19 who have symptoms and were directed to care for themselves at home must remain on home isolation until they:

- Have been afebrile for 24 hours without fever reducing medications.
- **AND** have shown improvement in symptoms.
- **AND** at least 10 days have passed since the last COVID-19 positive test. **Encourage individuals not to retest.**
- **UNLESS** otherwise directed by Public Health. Call (951) 955-9099.

Individuals with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 who never had any symptoms may discontinue home isolation when:

- At least 10 days have passed since the date of their last positive COVID-19 diagnostic test assuming they have not subsequently developed symptoms. **Encourage individuals not to retest.**
- If they develop symptoms, then the protocol for symptomatic individuals should be followed.

Clearance by Primary Care Providers:
We are requesting that Primary Care Providers instruct their patients and provide clearance for work per the guidelines above. (Please note that First Responders require additional clearance through their employers and Public Health.) **Physicians must clear patients according to local guidelines.**