Follow-up for Positive COVID-19 Cases and their Close Contacts

Tools for LBOHs

September 21, 2021

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Topics Today

- MAVEN Updates
  - New Suspect Line List Report
  - Vaccine Information added to the Confirmed and Probable Report
- Reminders: MAVEN ePostcard went out
  - Big things: updated case definition for COVID (90 day time period)
  - Home tests are briefly mentioned
- Quarantine Guidance:
  - Fully vaccinated symptomatic contacts should isolate and seek testing.
  - Your Quarantine FAQs
- DESE Updates:
  - DESE stated that they will not conduct quarantine based upon home tests. All students and staff reporting a positive test should follow-up with a provider-observed confirmatory test.
    - Mask Requirements
    - FAQs (explaining some key Test & Stay questions)
- Your FAQs
MDPH Conducts Weekly COVID-19 Case Investigation Webinars

- MDPH presents weekly on Tuesdays 11:00-12:15
- Updates in Guidance
- Troubleshooting MAVEN
- How to conduct case investigations and contact tracing in different settings.
- Target Audience: Health Agents, Contact Tracers, and Public Health Nurses doing this work.

MAVEN Help has Guidance Documents and Previous Webinars:

Webinars: Tuesdays @ 11am

MDPH Epi Program: 617-983-6800
MDPH MAVEN Help Desk: isishelp@mass.gov
MDPH ISIS Help Desk: 617-983-6801
MDPH ISIS Fax: 617-983-6813
DESE Rapid Response Help Center: (781) 338-3500
CTC Help Desk: 857-305-2828
CTC Local Health Help ctclocalhealthhelp@covid19.pih.org
CTC Supervisor Contact List
Higher Ed Contact List
COVID-19 Case Investigations
Tools for LBOHs

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Updates for today, Tuesday, 9/21/2021

- COVID-19 Case Definition Update & ePostcard Guidance
- LBOH Suspect Report
- LBOH Immediate Workflow – COVID-19 events only – please check your workflow TODAY and clear out the workflow
- Communication Events – what are they and how do you access them?
- Vaccine information added to the LBOH Confirmed and Probable Report
- First Responder Report – order was rescinded in mid-June – up to you at the local level if you want to keep running this report.
COVID-19 Case Definition Update

• **New case definition**, effective September 1, 2021
• Not retroactive to **before September 1st** but will impact case counting prospectively
• Reminder that case definitions are used for surveillance not clinical purposes
Example Event COVID event with multiple cases

- Three COVID example events
  - 2020 – 5/19/2021 event date
  - 2021 – 6/1/2021 event date
  - 2021 – 9/3/2021 event date
- Green coinfection link will show for the three cases
- Click on the (View) link for each case to toggle between cases
- Click on the Name of the case to see all affiliated cases with the person in MAVEN.
LBOH Suspect Case Line List Report

Maven Reporting

Category: Custom Reports
Select Report: COVID-19 LBOH Suspect Case line list Report
Description: COVID-19 Suspect Case line list report. Your city/town name must be in all CAPS. Limit the date parameter to 30 days. Report displays suspect cases for your LBOH.

Report Period*: Date Range
Start Date: mm/dd/yyyy  End Date: mm/dd/yyyy

Official City*: LEXINGTON

Disease classification status*: Suspect
Probable
Confirmed
Revoked
Contact

Output Type: HTML
Immediate Notification workflow (COVID-19 Only)

- **UPDATE:** COVID-19 Immediate Notification Workflow - 937 events in this workflow this morning
  - This will allow proper notification of all new COVID-19 events for your jurisdiction. *(Confirmed and Probable Cases)*
  - Please review all events/cases in this workflow and complete your Step 1 - LBOH Notification to “Yes” to clear out this workflow.
  - If you are retaining ownership then complete Step 2 (Investigation Started) & Step 3 (LBOH Investigator (name, lboh, phone number))
  - When you are done then complete Step 4 (Case Report Form Complete)
  - You can complete Step 5 if you want – if not then leave blank
What are Communication Events for LBOH

Communication Events Video

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- Understanding Date Fields and Selecting Date Ranges _Ver_1.0_October2020
- Tasking Cases_Ver_1.0_October2020
- Cluster naming conventions_ver1.0_September2020
- How to add attachments?
- What are Communication Events and how do I access/edit mine? (PDF / Video)
- How to run a report?
- How to search for an event?
- How to share an event?
- How to check and clear your workflows for routine diseases?
- How to plan for back up coverage?
- How to use a wizard?
- How to Investigate Acute Hepatitis C Cases?
- Follow up for Suspect Cases of Tickborne Disease
- How to link two existing cases in MAVEN?
### LBOH Confirmed and Probable Report

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**Added Vaccine Information to the Confirmed and Probable Report (go the far right in your report)**
COVID-19 - line list of addresses with individual(s) under isolation for emergency responders

Order was rescinded in mid-June
Up to each LBOH to decide if they want to keep running this report
Get the Training Basics Here:

**Introduction to COVID-19 Follow-up Part 1 – May 11, 2021**
- Part 1 Intro Training Slides
- Part 1 Intro Training Recording

**Introduction to COVID-19 Follow-up Part 2 – May 18, 2021**
- Part 2 Intro Training Slides
- Part 2 Intro Training Recording

**COVID-19 Cluster Events Training – May 25, 2021**
- Cluster Training Slides
- Cluster Training Recording

- There are tools available for you to help collect information on close contacts and to calculate out their quarantine period (and potential quarantine options as applicable).
  
  - All tools, including the Interview Tool, are available on MAVEN Help.
    - You do NOT have to be in MAVEN or be a MAVEN user to access these tools. They are available online.

- Close Contact Form (1 Contact Extended Calculation Tool)
- Close Contact Form (2 Contacts)
Summary of Key Guidance & Tools

- **MA Testing Guidance: Updated June 14, 2021**
  - [https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-testing-guidance](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-testing-guidance)

- **MA Travel Information**
  - Return to normal travel recommendations for vaccinated people, and says to check CDC pages for the latest on domestic and international travel.

- **Isolation & Quarantine Guidance Documents**
  - Guidance states recently recovered (in first 90 days) and fully vaccinated people do not need to quarantine.

- **Date: March 8, 2021 – Occupational Exposure & Return to Work Guidance**
  - Now includes language about recently recovered and fully vaccinated people.

- **Pediatric Clinical Testing Advisory**
  - 11/25/2020 Advises Pediatricians to Test for COVID-19 in all patients with symptoms compatible with COVID, regardless of age

- **Date: 10/21/2020 COVID-19 Testing Scenarios FAQ**
  - Describes different lab test results and what to do
  - Outlines discordant results and what they mean

- **09/03/2021 Updated COVID-19 Case Classification Manual**
  - COVID-19 now 90 days (so new event will be generated with a new positive lab after 90 days)

- **Updated Quarantine Guidance 9/8/21!**

- **Lab Results Questions**

- **Helpful to get Docs to test Kids**

- **Updated in June**

- **MA Travel Advisory is Gone.**

- **Updated 9/3 with new 90-day COVID event time period!**
Summary of Key Guidance & Tools

Date: 8/22/2020 - **MDPH COVID-19 PCR and Antibody Testing Public Health Response Recommendations**
- Table describes different Public Health Actions based upon different testing results.
- Big take home: PCR & Antigen positive patients should be treated like cases.
- Serology positive cases do not require public health follow-up.

Date 8/10/2020 - **MDPH Follow-up Table for Positive Antigen Test Results**
- Reminder that while Antigen Tests = Probable, we still treat like a case and isolate accordingly & do contact tracing.
- A PCR obtained at the same time (w/i 2 calendar days) will trump the antigen test result.

Date: 03/16/2021 - **Updated CDC Guidance on Duration of Isolation & Precautions for Adults with COVID-19**
- 10 Day Isolation Period now has more data supporting it.
- Ignore most additional PCR tests up to 3 months after initial illness onset.
- No need to quarantine up to 3 months after initial illness onset.
CDC Updated Pages

• CDC Vaccines Guidance Page:
  • “Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the United States”
    • Everything you need to know regarding vaccination guidelines.

• Immunization Action Coalition (IAC)’s Ask the Experts page
  • https://www.immunize.org/askexperts/experts_cov.asp
    • Great resource for all your vaccine questions in a Q&A format.

• CDC guidance on VACCINATED PEOPLE:
  • Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People
    • Talks about what precautions are still needed for fully vaccinated people, etc.
    • Some recommendations are still under consideration here in MA.
 Updates – A quick recap for Sept. 21, 2021

We Last Met September 14, 2021:

- MAVEN ePostcard went out Thursday Evening
- Better Wording update to mass.gov Quarantine Guidance:
- Serology Testing (antibody results) and follow-up
- DESE Updates:

Overview

- New case definition, effective September 1, 2021 – will not be applied retroactively
- Will impact case counting prospectively
- Reminder: case definitions are used for surveillance not clinical purposes
- Brief summary of Non-Medically Attended At-Home Testing talking points, with further guidance pending

Summary of Important Revisions:

- Specifies criteria for enumerating new cases in persons previously classified as a probable or confirmed case (i.e., reinfections)
  - Individuals who test positive again more than 90 days after previously being reported as a case of COVID-19 will be automatically counted as a new case and new event will be created in MAVEN
- Genomic sequencing results are included in the laboratory criteria
- Acknowledges testing performed without any medical oversight

Updated Case Classification

- Suspect
  - Positive antibody test
  - Antigen tests via autopsy specimens
  - PCR or antigen tests performed without CLIA oversight – i.e. over the counter tests performed without any medical oversight

- Probable
  - Positive antigen test
  - Meets vital records criteria

- Confirmed
  - Positive PCR or genomic sequencing result
Non-Medically Attended At-Home Tests: (tests purchased over-the-counter without a prescription and conducted at home without telehealth oversight)

MDPH is working to establish a standardized approach to identifying and tracking non-medically attended tests in MAVEN. Further guidance is forthcoming.

The following recommendations currently apply when an individual discloses they have tested positive via a non-medically attended At-Home Test:

• Cases reporting a positive Non-Medically Attended At-Home Test are recommended to seek confirmatory (PCR testing) but should be advised to isolate, and to notify their close contacts about the exposure.

• LBOH are not required to conduct additional follow-up at this time for nonmedically attended home tests
Non-Medically Attended At-Home Tests: (tests purchased over-the-counter without a prescription and conducted at home without telehealth oversight)

- **Confirmatory testing (PCR) is recommended** for home testing. PCR specimens collected at the same time or within 2 days of the antigen test result override an antigen result if results are discordant (See Discordant Test Results Follow-up Guidance).

- **Cases with a positive non-medically attended At-Home Test should isolate** while pending the results of an appropriately timed confirmatory test.
  - If the case decides to NOT seek confirmatory testing or the confirmatory test was not collected within 2 days, they will need to isolate for 10 days from symptom onset (or test date if asymptomatic).
  - Utilize the first positive test date as Day 0 if both at-home and confirmatory testing results are available in an asymptomatic individual.

At this time, non-medically attended home tests should not be utilized for testing out of strict quarantine early or for returning to school following symptoms when a negative test is required.
BinaxNOW SELF test vs. HOME test

**SELF TEST:**
- No online guide (this is unobserved)
- No App for reporting is listed
- No Prescription: you can buy these anywhere over the counter.

**HOME TEST:**
- Certified video guide to supervise testing.
- App and reporting.
- Prescription home use.
Antigen Tests: Follow this table

Q. How do we know when an antigen should be confirmed with a PCR?

A. Consult this guidance table for how to follow up on Antigen Positive individuals who also obtain a PCR test.

- If the PCR is collected at the same time or within 2 days of the Antigen Test, the PCR result trumps the antigen result.

http://www.maventrainingsite.com/maven-help/pdf/Antigen%20Results%20Follow-up%20Guidance_ver1.0_August_10.pdf
Antigen+ & PCR-

- Any negative PCR collected within 2 days before or after will trump the Antigen result.

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This case is presumed negative. Revoke Case.**

** Health agent should contact isishelp@mass.gov or the Division of Epidemiology at 617-983-6800 with MAVEN ID# for cases requiring changes in surveillance case classification status. Be sure to update notes in your MAVEN cases accordingly.
Antigen+ & PCR-

- Any negative PCR collected > 3 days before or after Positive Antigen does not change follow-up.

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Negative PCRs collected so far from the antigen test do not give us enough information to trump the +Antigen. Treat as a case and follow up.
Quarantine: The Basics

- **Cases in the Community** follow State Quarantine Guidance.
- **Students in K-12 settings** can follow DESE COVID-19 Protocols and have slightly different quarantine options.

<table>
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<th>OPTIONS</th>
<th>CRITERIA</th>
<th>ACTIVE MONITORING</th>
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| 7 Days of Strict Quarantine | Release on Day 8 after last exposure if:  
  - A test (either PCR or Abbott ID NOW antigens) taken on Day 5 or later is negative; AND  
  - The individual has not experienced any symptoms up to that point; AND  
  - The individual conducts active monitoring through Day 14.  
  No Symptom: |
| Test Required         | Individual must actively monitor symptoms and take temperature once daily. If even mild symptoms develop or the individual has a temperature of 100.0°F, they must immediately self-isolate, contact the public health authority overseeing their quarantine and get tested. |
| 10 Days of Strict Quarantine | Release on Day 11 after last exposure if:  
  - The individual has not experienced any symptoms up to that point; AND  
  - The individual conducts active monitoring through Day 14.  
  No test is necessary under this option.  
  No Symptom: |
| 14 Days of Strict Quarantine | Release on Day 15 after last exposure if:  
  - The individual has experienced ANY symptoms during the quarantine period EVEN if they have a negative COVID-19 test; OR  
  - The individual indicates they are unwilling or unable to conduct active monitoring.  
  No additional active monitoring required. |
Better Wording in Quarantine Guidance on MASS.GOV for Fully VACCINATED Close Contacts

• The PDF quarantine documents and the full Quarantine page have been updated (with a date of September 8, 2021).

• “Even if you are not required to quarantine because you are fully vaccinated or because you have had COVID-19 in the last 90 days, you should still monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days following an exposure. If you experience symptoms, separate yourself from others, seek testing, and contact your healthcare provider.” - updated Quarantine Guidance 9/8/21
Quarantine Guidance Reminders

• Fully Vaccinated Individuals are NOT subject to Quarantine Guidance. They are exempt from quarantine and can continue normal activities following an exposure.
  
  • “If you are fully vaccinated, you are not required to quarantine following an exposure. However, you should still monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days following an exposure. If you experience symptoms, isolate yourself from others, seek testing, and contact your healthcare provider.”

• Because fully vaccinated individuals are not required to quarantine, they do not fall into a 14-day quarantine if they develop symptoms.
  
  • There is no need to determine which 7-, 10-, or 14-day quarantine option applies because none are applicable for fully vaccinated close contacts.
Quarantine Guidance Reminders

- Exposed contacts should still be notified about their exposure.
  - The index case may be incorrect in assuming a contact’s vaccination status.
  - Exposed contacts notified about their exposure should have a low threshold for identifying symptoms in themselves and seeking testing. This may not happen if they do not know about their exposure.
  - While broader state guidance does not change for asymptomatic fully vaccinated contacts, individuals may choose to take other precautions following a known exposure, and they should be notified when exposure information is available.
  - There is no continuous follow-up or outreach expected of LBOH following a notification to a fully vaccinated contact that is exempt from quarantine aside from confirming their vaccination status, ensuring they understand their 2-week timeframe to be watchful, and ensuring they know what to do should they experience symptoms.
Quarantine Guidance Reminders

• There is been no major change to the State Quarantine Guidance this Fall (aside from the additional wording to help clarify for fully vaccinated individuals with symptoms).
  • The three strict quarantine options still apply for community cases.
    • 7 Days
    • 10 Days
    • 14 Days (Required if any symptoms are experienced during the 14 days of quarantine, EVEN if they have a negative COVID-19 test.)

 WHAT’S NEW? DESE has their own protocols for K-12 settings this fall, and our normal early release from quarantine guidance which requires consistently being asymptomatic does not apply to kids in school.
DESE (K-12 Fall Guidance)

• DESE/DPH Protocols for Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios - SY 2021-22
  - Emailed Covid Response Guidance Doc came out Friday August 13th.
  - Outlines Isolation & Quarantine for Cases & Contacts
    • COVID-19 symptoms
    • Definition of a close contact & describes quarantine exemptions
  - Protocol A: For individuals who test positive for COVID-19
  - Protocol B: Protocol for asymptomatic close contacts
    • New “Test and Stay” option for asymptomatic contacts
  - Protocol C: Protocol for symptomatic individuals
    • (close contacts & not close contacts)
  • FAQs (explaining some key Test & Stay questions)

Please contact the DESE Rapid Response Help Center at 781-338-3500 with any questions
Protocol B: Asymptomatic Close Contacts

- Do you have a good in-school testing program in place? That determines which B Protocol for contacts you should use.
  - **Protocol B-1: Test & Stay (Preferred)**
    - We have a good in-school testing program so we can pick this option and keep contacts in school while we test them daily.
  - **Protocol B-2: Traditional Quarantine (7 days & neg. test)**
    - We don’t have daily testing set up or the contact doesn’t want to participate. They can stay out for the normal quarantine options and come back with a negative test after Day 5.
  - **Protocol B-3: Traditional Quarantine (10 days no symptoms & no test)**
    - The normal 10-day strict quarantine option for people who remain asymptomatic and don't try to test out earlier.

- **New Test and Stay Program** will allow asymptomatic close contacts to remain in school and participate in sports and extracurriculars so long as they:
  - Take a rapid antigen test daily,
    - If you want to participate in a weekend school sport/activity, you will need to test those days too.
  - Wear a mask in school at all times (except eating and drinking),
    - When you do take off your mask (for eating and drinking), you need to be 3ft from other people.
      - This should not be construed as a broad physical distancing requirement or recommendation; it is only in place as part of this single, narrow protocol.
  - Follow other guidelines as noted in the document (quarantine at home on weekends and in the evenings when not at school or school activities for the 7 days of Test and Stay. Conduct active monitoring for full 14 days).

- **Test and Stay only allows students with in-school exposures to participate in school and school-related activities.**
  - You can't participate if your exposure was not from school or a school activity.
  - Once in Test and Stay, you need to quarantine when not in school or a school activity.

If districts do not have Test and Stay available, or an individual or family chooses not to participate:
- Close contact will need to quarantine at home for at least 7 days from the point of exposure.
Test and Stay Questions

• Q. If individuals are exposed to a COVID-19 positive individual outside of school, can they participate in Test and Stay?

• A. No. At this time, Test and Stay is intended for in-school close contacts only. Unvaccinated close contacts that were exposed to a COVID-19 positive individual in their household (such as siblings) or other non-school setting, must quarantine at home per DPH/DESE’s Protocols for Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios – SY 2021-22 document. As a reminder, vaccinated close contacts are exempt from quarantine protocols and do not participate in Test and Stay.
Test and Stay Questions

• Q. When individuals participating in Test and Stay are not in school, are they required to quarantine?
  • A. In alignment with DPH guidance, individuals participating in Test and Stay should stay home and quarantine whenever they are not in school settings, for the duration of the Test and Stay period. As a reminder, as noted on page 6 of the Protocols for Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios - SY 2021-22 document, individuals can participate in school activities on the weekends and after school if they continue to test on those days and follow the other Test and Stay protocols.

• Q. Can individuals participating in Test and Stay ride the bus?
  • A. Yes. Individuals participating in Test and Stay can participate in all school setting activities, including riding the bus. They must remain masked unless eating or drinking and maintain 3’ of distancing as feasible.
Keeping Quarantine Guidance Straight

• Clarify: Are we discussing a contact in the community? Or are we referencing the K-12 school setting?

  • If it is a contact in the community, apply normal State Quarantine Guidance.
    • This includes childcare/daycare settings. (They do not have their own protocol this year so follow regular state guidance.)
    • Exposed individuals can opt for reduced strict quarantine guidance ONLY if they remain asymptomatic the entire 14 days.

  • If the contact attends K-12, apply the DESE COVID-19 Protocols to determine the appropriate quarantine schedule.
    • Test & Stay Only Applies:
      • If the school HAS this program.
      • Exposure occurred AT school or school activity. (Cannot apply to home or community exposures)
    • 7-or 10-day strict quarantine options are for quarantine at home (No going out or participating in any activities for the duration.)
Quarantine FAQs:

• Q. Is a fully vaccinated household contact of a confirmed case required to quarantine?

  • A. No, a fully vaccinated contact (even a household contact) is not required to quarantine. They should, however, make every effort to limit exposure in the household. The case should isolate away from others. Households should consider facemasks, handwashing, etc. to prevent continuous exposure and to decrease the risk of breakthrough disease.

  • If a fully vaccinated contact develops symptoms, they should immediately isolate and seek testing.
Quarantine FAQs:

• **Q. If an unvaccinated close contact develops symptoms during their quarantine, how long must they quarantine for?**

  • **A. Is this a community case or a child in the K-12 setting?**

  • **If this is a community case**, this contact should seek testing while symptomatic. They will be subject to the full 14-day quarantine (even with a negative COVID test).

  • **If this is a student in a K-12 DESE setting**, they should first address their symptoms via Protocol C (Symptomatic Kids). Once they have completed Protocol C (ruled out COVID with a negative PCR test and recovered from their symptoms), they can jump back into any of the DESE protocol options that may still apply to them.

  • As long as they have recovered, they can still participate in Test & Stay or a 7-or 10-day quarantine despite having had symptoms at some point in their quarantine.

  • This is different than how we apply quarantine to community cases.
Quarantine FAQs:

• Q. If a student has an outside of school exposure, do we follow this 7-10-14 quarantine option OR follow DESE protocols?

  • A. You should follow DESE protocols for the student, however they would not be eligible for the Test and Stay option, because their exposure occurred outside the school setting.
Quarantine FAQs:

• Q. **When should symptomatic Contacts be tested?**

  • **A.** At any point in the quarantine period that symptoms develop, a contact should seek testing right away. If a test result is negative, but COVID-19 is still suspected, a follow-up test is recommended.

  • If symptoms change or increase following a negative test, an additional test is recommended to reflect the new symptoms. For example:
    
    • If I develop cold symptoms and go seek a COVID test, which is negative, but 5 days later I develop different/more symptoms (like a fever & cough), I should seek testing again to reflect THOSE symptoms and that particular illness.
Quarantine – Your Questions

• **Q.** How do we apply the 3-6 ft exemption from quarantine in other settings?

• **A.** You don’t. The list of exemptions to quarantine given in the DESE protocol only apply to school settings. (So you wouldn’t use them in the community) and the exemptions themselves are very specific. Make sure to read the details.

• **DESE Protocol:**
  • **Classroom close contacts:** An individual who is exposed to a COVID-19 positive individual in the classroom while both individuals were masked, so long as the individuals were spaced at least 3 feet apart, is exempt from testing and quarantine response protocols.

• So, you are only exempt if the case was fully masked and the contact was fully masked in the classroom (not at lunch, not at another club activity, sport, afterschool group, etc.).
QUESTION

DOES ANYONE HAVE QUESTIONS?