

Outbreak quarantine protocol for management of contacts of COVID-19 positive cases

Name document	Outbreak quarantine protocol for management of contacts of COVID-19 positive cases
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Target group	Health care providers and the Aruban community

Preface

Taking into consideration the high number of confirmed covid-19 cases on Aruba, the previous quarantine protocol for contacts of covid-19 positive cases has been adapted in order to prevent disruption on the Aruban community. However, the current situation justifies additional measures. Therefore, this new version of the quarantine protocol includes **additional and stricter quarantine requirements** and recommendations by the Department of Public Health. This is presented below and summarized in Table 1.

Protocol for contacts

THOSE LIVING IN THE SAME HOUSEHOLD AS A COVID-19 POSITIVE CASE

AND

ALL OTHER DIRECT¹ AND CLOSE² CONTACTS IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

This can include partners, colleagues, people who may have visited like friends, a babysitter or anyone else providing in-home services (e.g. maid, caregiver, etc.).

- 14 days compulsory quarantine.
- Monitor symptoms closely during the quarantine period.
- At appearance of the slightest symptoms, stay home and contact general physician for testing.

¹ Physical contact

² Close contact: someone who has been within 1, 5 meter for 15 minutes or more (in the period from 2 days before symptom onset until isolation discontinuation), irrespective of whether the person with COVID-19 or the contact was wearing a mask. Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-health-recommendations.html>

PROXIMATE³ AND ALL OTHER CONTACTS

- Recommended quarantine at own responsibility for 14 days after last contact with covid-19 positive case.
- These days are not covered by SvB. This should be done by coming to an agreement with employer, working from home or by taking holidays.
- Monitor symptoms during these 14 days.
- If going to work is required, wearing a mouth mask is mandatory and social distance and hand hygiene must be strictly applied.
- At appearance of the slightest symptoms, stay home and contact general physician for testing.

Rules and conditions for safe and effective quarantine

- Those who are in mandatory quarantine must be placed in adequately ventilated, spacious single rooms with hand hygiene and toilet facilities.
- If single rooms are not available, beds should be placed at least 1 meter apart and a distance of at least 1 meter should be maintained from other household members at all times. NOTE: Adequate air ventilation is essential.
- Social distancing and hand and respiratory hygiene should be strictly adhered to at all times
- Minimize the use of shared spaces and cutlery
- Ensure that shared spaces such as the kitchen and bathroom are well ventilated
- Persons sharing a household with someone in mandatory quarantine may leave the house as long they adhere to the above-mentioned rules and the requirements.
- Older persons and those with comorbid conditions require special attention because of their increased risk for severe COVID-19.

Follow-up and control procedure for quarantined persons

- Follow-up of persons who are quarantined is conducted for the duration of the quarantine period. This is done by phone and includes monitoring of symptoms.
- Any person in quarantine who develops the slightest symptom at any point during the quarantine period is treated and managed as a suspected case of COVID-19 and will be referred for testing.
- In the case of violation of mandatory quarantine instructions, a fine will be imposed.

³ Proximate contacts: more than 1, 5 meter but in the same room for an extended period of time (≥ 1 hour).

Table 1: Overview quarantine measures.

	<u>THOSE LIVING IN THE SAME HOUSEHOLD AS A COVID-19 POSITIVE CASE</u> AND <u>ALL OTHER DIRECT⁴ AND CLOSE⁵ CONTACTS IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH</u>	<u>PROXIMATE⁶ AND ALL OTHER CONTACTS</u>
Quarantine measures	14 days compulsory quarantine	Recommended quarantine at own responsibility for 14 days after last contact with covid-19 positive case.

⁴ Physical contact

⁵ Close contact: someone who has been within 1, 5 meter for 15 minutes or more (in the period from 2 days before symptom onset until isolation discontinuation), irrespective of whether the person with COVID-19 or the contact was wearing a mask. Source: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-health-recommendations.html>

⁶ Proximate contacts: more than 1, 5 meter but in the same room for an extended period of time (≥ 1 hour).