



Manitowoc County Health Department

Mission: To Protect and Promote the Health of Manitowoc County in Partnership with our Community

Environmental Health • Public Health Nursing • W.I.C. Program

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Manitowoc County to Adopt Updated COVID-19 Quarantine Guidelines, Cautions that 14 Days is Still the Safest

MANITOWOC, WI – In response to new guidelines released by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, the Manitowoc County Health Department is adopting new quarantine guidelines for close contacts of someone diagnosed with COVID-19. The updated guidelines go into effect Monday, December 7th.

While **the full 14 day quarantine is still the safest option** for preventing the spread of COVID-19, this new guidance takes into account emerging scientific evidence on quarantine periods and recognizes that the full 14 day quarantine is not feasible for some individuals. Individuals who are elderly or immunocompromised are especially encouraged to continue following the full 14 day quarantine period.

People who **do not develop any symptoms and cannot follow the full 14 day quarantine** can end their quarantine:

- After completing day 10 of quarantine without testing.
- After completing day 7 of quarantine and receiving a negative test result that was collected within 48 hours of the end of quarantine.

People must continue to monitor for symptoms for the full 14 days. If symptoms develop following the end of quarantine, people are advised to isolate immediately, contact their healthcare providers, and get tested.

Schools and businesses may continue to ask students and employees to quarantine for the safer, 14 day period, if they elect to do so.

These new guidelines can be applied to individuals currently in quarantine if completing the safer 14 day quarantine is not feasible.