

# Duration of Precautions for Viral Respiratory Illnesses

## Continuing care homes

Use Droplet and Contact precautions during the isolation period. After the isolation period ends encourage residents to use added precautions.<sup>1</sup>

### Isolation period

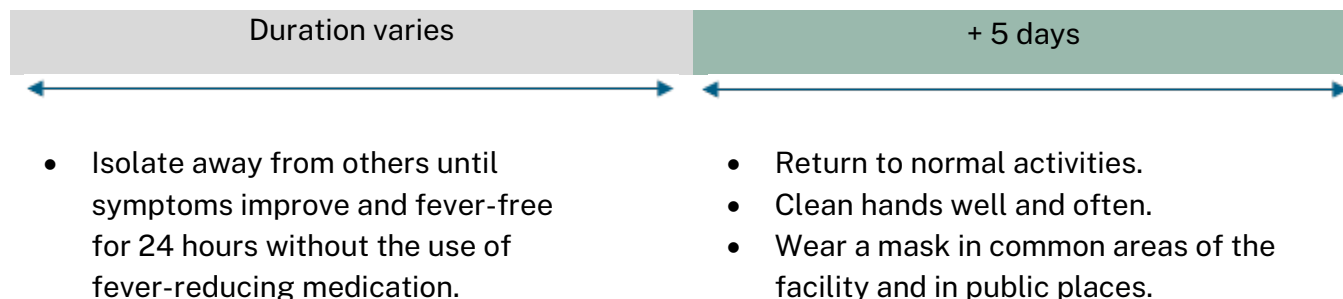
- Duration of resident isolation will vary based on clinical presentation.
- Isolate resident with respiratory illness<sup>2</sup> on [Droplet and Contact precautions](#) until:
  - Symptoms have improved AND
  - Resident is feeling well enough to resume normal activities AND
  - Resident has been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- Encourage resident to clean hands well and often.

### Added precautions after isolation ends

For five days after isolation ends, resident is strongly encouraged to:

- Clean hands well and often.
- Wear a mask in common areas in the facility and in public spaces.
  - Practice physical distancing or return to room if needing to remove mask, such as during meals.

**Figure 1: Isolation period and added precautions after isolation ends**



<sup>1</sup> This information is from Appendix B in [Guide for Outbreak Prevention & Control in Continuing Care Homes](#). Refer to the guide for more information.

<sup>2</sup> This includes Adenovirus, COVID-19, Enterovirus/ Rhinovirus, Human Metapneumovirus (hMPV), Influenza A and Influenza B, Non-COVID-19 Coronaviruses, Parainfluenza Type 1, 2, 3, 4, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) or if no pathogen is identified