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SUWASIRIPAYA  
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சுகாதார அமைச்சு  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

මගේ අංකය )  
எனது இல ) DGHS/COVID-19/347/2021  
My No. )  
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உமது இல )  
Your No. : )  
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திகதி ) 2022.01.24  
Date )

DDG/ NHSL  
DDG/ NH Kandy  
Directors of Hospitals  
Provincial Directors of Health Services  
Regional Directors of Health Services  
Medical Superintendents  
Regional Epidemiologists  
Heads of Institutions of dedicated COVID-19 treatment facilities  
Medical Officers of Health

### Exit strategy for COVID-19 Patients and Contacts

This is further to my letter No. DDG/LS/ED/Testing-Strategy/106/2021 dated 09/06/2021 on 'Revised Guidelines on Laboratory Testing Strategy for COVID-19', letter No. DGHS/COVID-19/347/2021 dated 04/08/2021 on 'Guideline for Integrated Home-Based isolation and management of asymptomatic and mild symptomatic COVID-19 patients', letter No. DGHS/COVID-19/347/2021 dated 10/08/2021 on 'Updated discharge criteria from treatment facilities for COVID-19' and letter No DDG/E&OH/OH/08/2021-II on 'Exit strategy for COVID-19 positive employees'.

My letter No. DGHS/COVID-19/347/2021 dated 13.12.2021 on "Exit strategy for COVID-19 Patients and Contacts" is hereby cancelled.

## 1. COVID-19 Patients

### 1.1 Admitted to a Treatment Facility

If the COVID-19 patient has improved from mild / moderate symptoms and fever free for 48 hrs without antipyretics, can be released from isolation after 7 days from the date of Rapid Antigen Test (RAT)/PCR positivity (or from the date of onset of symptoms). Exit PCR or RAT is not required\*

### 1.2 Under Home Care Management System

Persons can be released from home isolation after 7 days from the date of RAT/PCR positivity (or from the date of onset of symptoms), if they have improved from mild / moderate symptoms and fever free for 48hrs without antipyretics. Exit PCR or RAT is not required\*.


\* Those who have not improved mild / moderate symptoms and having fever for more than 48hrs should contact the Medical Officer of Health of the area for medical advice on further management

## 2. Close contacts of COVID-19 Patients

- 2.1. **Fully vaccinated\*\*** close contacts, will not be quarantined if they do not have symptoms of COVID-19. They can continue to work if employed. However, if they develop COVID-19 symptoms, should perform RAT/PCR.
- 2.2. All **partially vaccinated or unvaccinated** close contacts can be released from home quarantine after completion of 7 days from the date of RAT/PCR positivity (or from the date of onset of symptoms). If they develop COVID-19 symptoms during the quarantine period, should, perform RAT/PCR. If RAT/PCR report is positive, need to inform area Medical Officer of Health (MOH).

\*\* Fully vaccinated

	Age category	Criteria for fully vaccinated status
1.	20 years and above	a) Should have taken two doses of a recommended COVID-19 vaccine and has completed 2 weeks after the second dose. Fully vaccinated status will be valid until 3 months from the second dose. b) After 3 months of the second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, not considered as fully vaccinated if the booster dose is not taken. Should have taken the booster dose after 3 months of the second dose to consider as fully vaccinated for COVID-19. c) If infected with COVID-19 after being vaccinated with two doses of the recommended COVID-19 vaccines, the booster dose can be administered after 1 month of infection provided the person has completed 3 months after the second dose. They should be considered as fully vaccinated with the booster dose.
2.	Children of 16 -19 years	Should have taken two doses and completed 2 weeks after the second dose.
3.	Children of 12 – 15 years	Should have taken a single dose and completed two weeks after the single dose

  
**Dr. Asela Gunawardena**  
**Director General of Health Services**

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Additional Secretary (Public Health Services/Medical Services), Ministry of Health  
Deputy Director Generals, Ministry of Health  
Chief Epidemiologist  
Director/ Quarantine  
Coordinator In Charge of COVID-19 Operations, Ministry of Health