FIGURE 12.2: ALGORITHM FOR RELEASE FROM ISOLATION CRITERIA FOR PATIENTS WITH COVID-19

Low-risk clinical scenario
(Asymptomatic throughout illness, normal vitals during illness, has mild-moderate COVID-19 disease, and/or no fever or no fever beyond day 11 [i.e., documented afebrile days 12, 13 and 14])

High-risk clinical scenario^ (Patients returning from a hospitalization due to COVID-19, severe**, COVID-19 without hospitalization, severely immunocompromised^ ^^, patients still symptomatic after 14 days)

Clinical-based strategy
Clinical criteria only

Remain in isolation until:
- At least 3 days after resolution of fever (if applicable) without antipyretic
- At least 14 days (minimum) from onset of symptoms or initial positive test date in asymptomatic patients
- Improvement in symptoms

Clinical Criteria Met
COVID-19 evaluation by a medical provider

Clinical-based strategy
Clinical criteria only

Remain in isolation until:
- At least 3 days after resolution of fever (if applicable) without antipyretic
- At least 21 days (minimum) from onset of symptoms or initial positive test date in asymptomatic patients
- Improvement in symptoms

Clinical Criteria Met
COVID-19 evaluation by a medical provider

Concerns Exist; Not Clinically Cleared for Release
- Remain in isolation
- Consult with an Infectious Disease Specialist

Patient is Low-Risk*

Ok to release from isolation:
- Patient should always wear a surgical mask until cough is resolved
- Wear a face covering for 2 weeks minimum or, if applicable, until universal face covering has been discontinued altogether at the facility. Employ social distancing per the universal facility pandemic precautions and those for vulnerable populations.
- Patient is Low-Risk*

Concerns Exist; Not Clinically Cleared for Release
- Remain in isolation
- Consult with an Infectious Disease Specialist

Patient is High-Risk**

Rehabilitation, frequent follow up appointments AND medical/specialty care, and vigilance for thrombo-embolic, pulmonary, cardiac, neurologic, renal, and other organ system persistent or new complications. Strongly consider extended periods of convalescence and cardiopulmonary recovery before returning to physically demanding work. Return to strenuous labor such as fire camp or strenuous exercise should be delayed at least 7 days after release from isolation.

Excerpted from the Control Strategy for Suspected and Confirmed Cases section of the CCHCS Interim Guidance for Health Care and Public Health Providers: https://cchcs.ca.gov/covid-19-interim-guidance/
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