


 <p><b>PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER INCIDENT COMMAND POST</b></p>	Document Type	Document Code: GL-OED-ICP-005
	<b>GUIDELINES</b>	
	Document Title	Effective Date: August 2022
	<b>RETURN TO WORK CRITERIA FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS SUSPECTED OR CONFIRMED COVID-19</b>	Revision Number: 5
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<b>REVISION HISTORY</b>			
Rev No.	Review Date	Description of Change	Date of Next Review
1	June 2020	1. Adopted DOH guidelines DM-2020-0258: Criteria for Discharge: One negative result of RT-PCR instead of Two negatives RT-PCR results 2. Changed occupational health to Infirmary 3. Changed patient to healthcare worker	May 2022
2	April 6, 2021	1. Added item 1 2. Specified criteria for clinically recovered 3. Added repeat RT-PCR testing upon clearance to infirmary 4. Added RT PCR cycle threshold interpretation. 5. Added HCWs with high risk exposure	May 2022
3	June 23, 2021	1. Adopted DOH Guidelines DM-2021-0122 2. Decreased the isolation days from 14 to 10 days for mild and asymptomatic COVID-19 cases. 3. Increase the isolation days from 14 to 21 days for moderate COVID-19 cases.	May 2024
4	December 29, 2021	1. Adopted CDC Guidelines 2021 2. Removed repeat testing 3. Revised statement 3,4 4. Deleted statement 5,6	December 2023
5	August 29, 2022	1. Removal of high-risk exposure	August 2025

Reviewed by:	 <b>GERARDO S. MANZO, MD</b> Incident Commander	Approved by:	 <b>JOEL M. ABANILLA, MD</b> Executive Director
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## I. OBJECTIVE

This shall serve as guidance in issuing clearances for Healthcare Workers who are suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases upon their return to work.

## II. SCOPE

This guideline applies to all PHC Healthcare Workers.

## III. GUIDELINES

1. All healthcare workers with COVID-19 like symptoms shall be relieved from workforce and be properly evaluated and managed in the Emergency Room Special triage.
2. Fully vaccinated healthcare workers diagnosed with COVID-19 (asymptomatic, mild & moderate) can be tagged as clinically recovered if:
  - 2.1 At least 7 days of isolation for mild and asymptomatic, 10 days for moderate and 21 days for severe/critical have been completed, and
  - 2.2 No fever for the last 24hours without antipyretic
 \*Unvaccinated and Partially Vaccinated 14 days isolation
3. For HCWs with high-risk exposure:
  - 3.1 Asymptomatic: Back to work with strict adherence to COVID-19 safety precautions
  - 3.2 Self-monitoring of development of COVID-19 like signs and symptoms. Proceed to ER ST once with COVID-19 like signs and symptoms.
  - 3.3 Strictly wearing of fitted mask should be observed.
4. All previous COVID-19 healthcare workers shall seek infirmary clearance prior to work.
5. Health management of discharged HCW:
  - 5.1 Return to Work Practices after completing required number of isolation days
  - 5.2 All HCW shall seek Infirmary clearance prior to return to work.
  - 5.3 Wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment.
  - 5.4 Adhere to hand hygiene, and cough etiquette in CDC's interim infection control guidance (e.g., cover nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, dispose of tissues in waste receptacles).
  - 5.5 Self-monitor for symptoms and seek re-evaluation from ER ST if respiratory symptoms recur or worsen.