



衛生防護中心
Centre for Health Protection

**Scientific Committee on Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases
and
Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases**

**Updated Consensus Interim Recommendations on
the Quarantine requirements for Vaccinated Close Contacts of
Locally acquired cases of COVID-19
(As of 9 June 2021)**

The Scientific Committee on Emerging and Zoonotic Diseases (SCEZD) and the Scientific Committee on Vaccine Preventable Diseases (SCVPD) under the Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health, joined by the Chief Executive's expert advisory panel (EAP), has further reviewed the criteria concerning the shortening of quarantine period for fully vaccinated close contacts of confirmed coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases and updated recommendations based on the prevailing scientific understanding on COVID-19 and COVID-19 vaccines. This consensus recommendation supersedes the previous recommendation issued on 13 May 2021.

2. The criteria for shortening of quarantine period for fully vaccinated close contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases are as follows:

Close contacts of locally acquired cases who do not have key mutation(s) indicating possible variants of concern (VOC) defined by the World Health Organization (WHO)

3. For close contacts of locally acquired cases who do not have key mutation(s) indicating possible VOC defined by WHO, the duration of compulsory quarantine could be shortened from 14 days of quarantine in quarantine centres to 7 days of home quarantine with electronic monitoring, counting from the last day of exposure to the



confirmed case (the day of last exposure regarded as Day 0), provided that the following three criteria have been satisfied:

- (a) Documented proof of completion of the full course of recognised COVID-19 vaccines*, and 14 days have passed from the date of receiving the second dose#; **and**
- (b) Result of polymerase chain reaction (PCR) of the respiratory specimen taken on Day 0/ Day 1 after admission to quarantine centres is negative; **and**
- (c) Positive IgG/ total antibody against SARS-CoV-2 spike protein/ surrogate neutralising antibody, taken after admission to quarantine centres.

4. During the period of home quarantine, the close contact should have a deep throat saliva (DTS) specimen taken on Day 5 after last exposure to the confirmed case. After completing the 7-day home quarantine, the close contact would be subjected to 7 days of self-monitoring, and to Day-12 compulsory testing at community testing centres.

Close contacts of locally acquired cases detected to have key mutation(s) indicating possible VOC defined by WHO

5. For close contacts of locally acquired cases detected to have key mutation(s) indicating possible VOC defined by WHO, the duration of quarantine in quarantine centres could be shortened from 21 days to 14 days after the last day of exposure *plus* 7 days of self-monitoring, counting from the last day of exposure to the confirmed case. They are also subjected to Day-19 compulsory testing at community testing centres, provided that the following three criteria have been satisfied:

- (a) Documented proof of completion of the full course of recognised COVID-19 vaccines* and 14 days have passed from the date of receiving the second dose#; **and**
- (b) Results of polymerase chain reaction (PCR) of the respiratory specimens taken on Day 0/ Day 1 after admission to quarantine centres, and those taken on Day 7 and Day 12 after last exposure to the confirmed case, are all negative; **and**
- (c) Positive IgG/ total antibody against SARS-CoV-2 spike protein/ surrogate

neutralising antibody, taken after admission to quarantine centres.

* The following list of recognised COVID-19 vaccines would be accepted:

- (i) COVID-19 vaccines already recognised for use in Hong Kong;
- (ii) Vaccines on the World Health Organization (WHO) Emergency Use Listing or Pre-qualification lists;
- (iii) Vaccines recognised for use by Stringent Regulatory Authorities as designated by WHO or the National Medical Products Administration;
- (iv) Vaccines recommended by the joint Scientific Committees and the Chief Executive's expert advisory panel (Sputnik V).

The following persons are regarded as satisfying criteria (a) –

- (1) Close contacts who have documented past infection of COVID-19 within 9 months after discharge, OR
- (2) Close contacts who have documented past infection of COVID-19 more than 9 months after discharge plus one dose of recognised COVID-19 vaccines*, and 14 days have passed from the date of receiving the dose.

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