



COVID-19 RECOMMENDATIONS

Incarcerated Guidelines

March 1, 2024

CDC states as the fall and winter virus season ends, it's clear that the situation surrounding COVID-19 has changed. Though it remains an important health threat, COVID-19 is no longer the emergency that it once was, and its health impacts increasingly resemble those of other respiratory viral illnesses, including flu and RSV.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continue to support and suggest:

- 1) Updated vaccines
- 2) Frequent hand washing
- 3) Frequent cleaning
- 4) Air exchange or fresh air
- 5) Awareness of respiratory symptoms
- 6) Masking to reduce the spread of virus or for self-comfort as needed

FOR INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS

Isolation: Due to the enclosed setting and the risk of infectious disease spread, the Office of the Ombudsman continues to advise isolation for those incarcerated individuals who test positive for COVID-19 infection. Incarcerated individuals who demonstrate symptoms of respiratory illness should be tested for COVID-19. COVID-19-positive incarcerated individuals should remain in isolation with no contact with other incarcerated individuals for 7 days with release on day 8.

Quarantine: Those incarcerated individuals who are in close contact for an extended amount of time (e.g., roommates) should be tested for COVID-19 and quarantined for 5 days with a second COVID-19 test on day 5 and release from quarantine on day 6.