

## Osage County Health Department

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Policy on Quarantine

December 8, 2020

This policy is in response to recent guidelines placed by the CDC to reduce quarantine:

The newly-modified guidance from CDC continues to recommend the existing 14-day quarantine period. Additionally, guidance regarding Isolation for confirmed or probable cases remains unchanged, as does the existing Isolation guidance for SYMPTOMATIC close contacts. This newly-modified CDC guidance is not authorized for reduced timeframes for quarantine in nursing facilities or long-term care facilities.

The Osage County Health Department will NOT be adapting the "test out" strategy after 7 days of quarantine for asymptomatic individuals for the following reasons:

- Limited testing capability/availability in our area
- Monitoring in our area continues to prove individuals who have been identified as close contacts show no symptoms until AFTER day 7
- Osage County Health Department is not notified of negative tests

The Osage County Health Department WILL be adapting a version of quarantine reduction to 10 days with the following restrictions:

- Individuals may be considered "essential worker" –if not already deemed essential- status whereas return to work/school will be permitted after 10 days so long as the individual is asymptomatic AND will wear a mask at all times while at work or school
- Individuals will be expected to continue to monitor for symptoms throughout the full 14 days and, if a symptom develops, the individual will immediately isolate and contact public health authority or healthcare provider
- "Essential worker" status after the 10<sup>th</sup> day of quarantine will allow an individual to attend school or work ONLY. Otherwise the individual is expected to continue prescribed quarantine at current residence until released by the Osage County Health Department and/or until 14 full days have passed since the first day of contact with the positive case
- Students identified as a close contact must be excluded from ALL extracurricular activities for 14 days from last exposure to the positive case.

This policy will go into effect Wednesday, December 9, 2020. All quarantines issued prior to this date will follow previous guidelines.

Susan Long, RN/Administrator

olin Glavin, 1<sup>st</sup> District Commissioner

Darryl Griffin, Presiding Commissioner

Karry Kliethermes, 2nd District Commissioner

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