

TO: Vermont Health Care Providers and Health Care Facilities
FROM: Patsy Kelso, PhD; State Epidemiologist

Updated Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19)-Related Quarantine Recommendations for Congregate Care Staff and Residents

Note: This Health Update supersedes the update sent on [June 3, 2020](#).

Background:

Congregate care settings include facilities such as long-term care and detention facilities. Residents and staff of congregate care settings may be subject to quarantine related to COVID-19. Reasons for quarantine may include, but are not limited to, travel to an area subject to [travel restrictions](#) or suspected exposure to a [someone with COVID-19](#).

- Due to the high risk of COVID-19 transmission within congregate care settings, **residents and staff of these facilities do not have the option to test out of quarantine after 7 days** unless alternate guidance is provided by the Vermont Department of Health.
- Residents and staff of congregate care settings who are in quarantine **must complete the full 14-day quarantine period**.

Requested Actions:

Ensure that residents and staff of congregate care settings who are in quarantine complete the full 14-day quarantine period.

If you have any questions, please contact the HAN Coordinator at 802-859-5900 or vthan@vermont.gov

HAN Message Type Definitions

Health Alert: Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.

Health Advisory: Provides important information for a specific incident or situation may not require immediate action.

Health Update: Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.

Info Service Message: Provides general correspondence from VDH, which is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.