

**Boston Medical Center COVID-19 Clinical Criteria for Discharge**

**Main clinical criteria for discharge to home**

1. Overall improvement in the fever curve without antipyretics. No fever spikes  $\geq 101$  F for  $\geq 48$  hours
2. Improved or stable respiratory symptoms (e.g. improved shortness of breath or cough) and improved or stable oxygen requirement for  $\geq 48$  hours
3. Improved or stable laboratory data including inflammatory markers if they were followed during the admission (especially C-reactive protein, ferritin and lactate dehydrogenase)

**Additional comments**

- When making a decision to discharge a patient, the team should include time since onset of initial symptoms. Patients within 6-9 days since symptom onset are at highest risk for complications.
- All known COVID-infected patients with no PCP or with a BMC PCP who are discharged home will automatically receive at least one follow-up call within 24-48h of discharge to assess for symptoms. Community health centers (CHC) patients have a separate workflow; please notify the CHC in question at the time of discharge.

**Discharge checklist for all COVID-infected patients**

	Working phone and up-to-date contact information on Epic (please note that clinicians can now modify the demographics section to update phone numbers)
	Information on primary care team up-to-date on Epic
	Appropriate home setting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patient can adhere to home isolation (separate bedroom)</li> <li>• No household members are either pregnant, immunosuppressed, or have a history of end-stage renal disease</li> <li>• Appropriate caregivers are present in the home, if applicable</li> <li>• For patient experiencing homelessness, please follow separate guidelines providing guidance for this group</li> </ul>
	Quarantine education provided at discharge to patient and family. Patient and family have access to face covering, and patient has surgical mask for transport.

**Special considerations/populations**

- **COVID positive/high probability patients experiencing homelessness who leave against medical advice (AMA):**
  - Monday through Friday from 7 AM to 7 PM: Contact Deanna Faretra (pager 0735) who will coordinate with Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC)’s Homeless Services Bureau and BMC Infection Control. Deanna is also a resource for patients who are contemplating leaving AMA.
  - Nights and weekends: The floor team should call BPHC’s Homeless Services Bureau at 617-645-9680 as soon as possible and email BMC infection control (DG-HospitalEpidemiology and cc: Deanna.Faretra@bmc.org).

**Testing considerations at Discharge**

Please see the BMC protocol on “COVID-19 Removal of Isolation Precautions PUI and COVID-19 patients” for access to updated and full guidance.