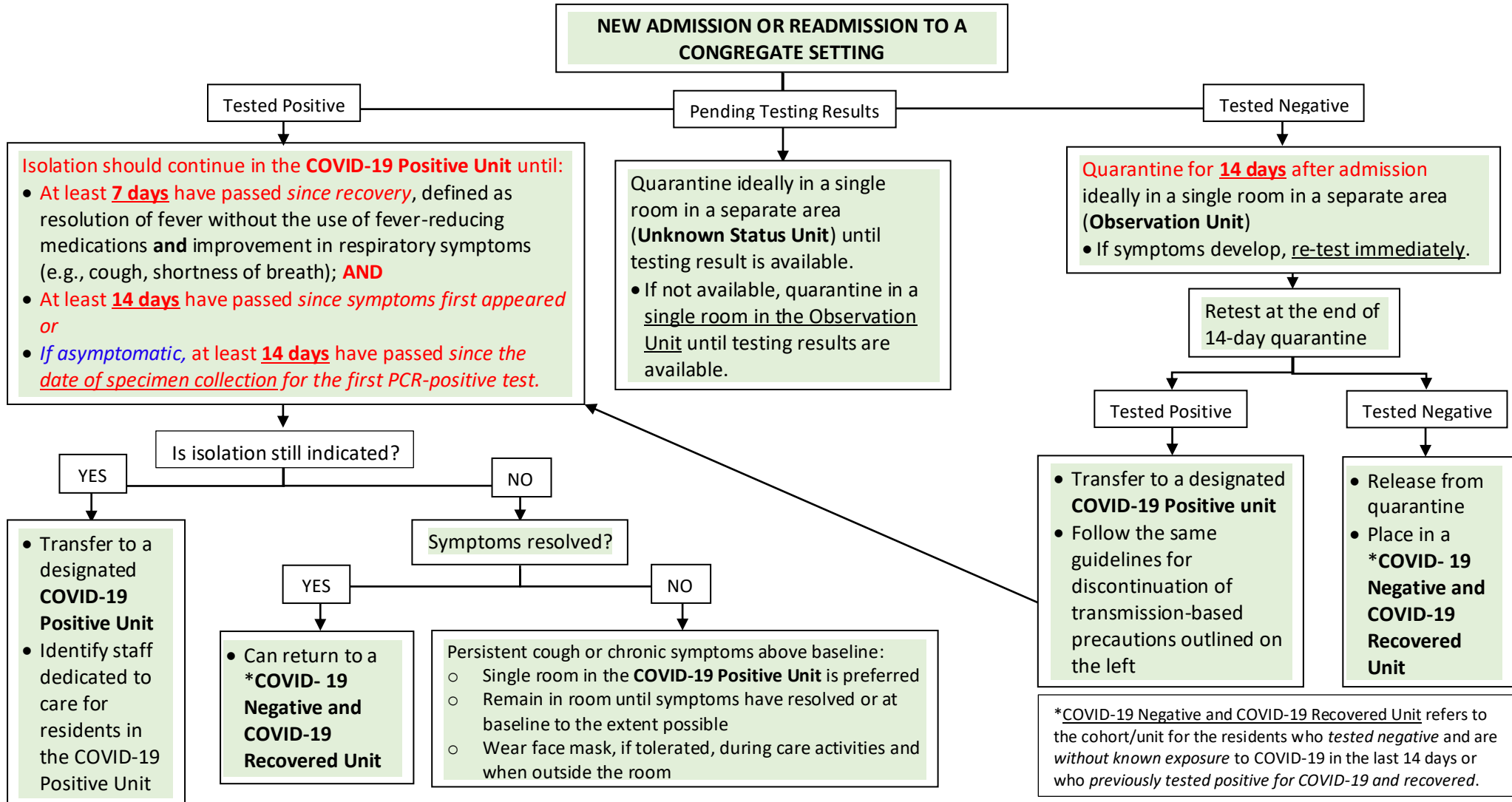


## COVID-19 Congregate Setting Admission, Readmission, and Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions Guidelines

- Individuals with COVID-19 who are medically stable may be transferred to congregate setting while still infectious and requiring isolation and transmission-based precautions. Additional testing prior to admission or readmission is *not* needed for individuals who have previously tested positive for COVID-19.
- **Testing should be performed for residents who have *not* previously tested positive for COVID-19 around the time of admission or readmission, including transfers from hospitals or other healthcare facilities, to inform cohorting decisions.** If the hospital does not test the patient, the congregate setting must test and quarantine upon admission.



**COVID-19 Congregate Setting Admission, Readmission, and  
 Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions Guidelines**

<b>Resident Cohorting</b>	<b>COVID-19 Positive Unit</b>	<b>Unknown Status Unit</b>	<b>Observation Unit</b>	<b>COVID-19 Negative and COVID-19 Recovered Unit</b>
<b>Placement Criteria</b>	Residents with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 (tested PCR positive for COVID-19) who have not met criteria for discontinuation of transmission-based precautions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Residents with pending COVID-19 PCR test results</li> <li>- Residents who refuse COVID-19 testing</li> </ul>	Residents who tested PCR negative for COVID-19 at time of admission but were potentially exposed within the last 14 days (e.g., new admissions and readmissions transferred from another facility)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Residents who tested PCR negative for COVID-19 without a known exposure in the last 14 days</li> <li>- Residents who have recovered from COVID-19</li> </ul>
<b>Infection Control and Prevention Precautions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This unit should be housed in a separate area (building, unit or wing) of the facility and have dedicated staff members who do not provide care for residents in other cohorts</li> <li>- Dedicated staff members in this unit should have separate break rooms and restrooms. These staff should remain separate from other staff members</li> <li>- To the extent possible, restrict access of ancillary personnel (e.g., dietary) to the unit</li> <li>- Assign dedicated environmental services (EVS) staff to work on this unit</li> <li>- Residents should wear a face mask, if tolerated, during care activities and when outside the room</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ideally, place resident in a single room in a separate area. If single room is not available in a separate area, place resident belong to this unit in a <u>single room in the Observation Unit</u> until testing results are available</li> <li>- Maintain transmission-based precautions for all residents on the unit</li> <li>- Residents should wear a face mask, if tolerated, during care activities and when outside the room</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ideally, place resident in a single room in a separate area</li> <li>- If single-bed rooms are not available, cohort those residents in the same room with at least 6 feet between beds and a privacy curtain drawn between them. If unable to separate beds by 6 feet, separate as far as possible, but no less than 3 feet apart</li> <li>- Maintain transmission-based precautions for all residents on the unit</li> <li>- Residents should wear a face mask, if tolerated, during care activities and when outside the room</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Residents can be placed in a multi-resident room</li> <li>- Maintain standard precautions</li> </ul>
<b>PPE Recommended During Direct Patient Care</b>	All recommended COVID-19 PPE, which includes a N-95 or higher-level respirator (or face mask if a respirator is not available), eye protection (i.e., goggles or a disposable face shield that covers the front and sides of the face), gown, and gloves	All recommended COVID-19 PPE	All recommended COVID-19 PPE	Standard precautions plus universal face masks for source control