

Isolation vs. Quarantine

What's the difference between quarantine and isolation? The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention explains:

You should isolate at home, if you have COVID-19, whether or not you have symptoms. Isolation separates people who are infected with virus from others, even in their home.

People who are isolating need to stay home, monitor symptoms, wear a mask when around other people and pets in the home, and use a separate bathroom, if possible.

If you *might have been* exposed to COVID-19, you should stay home. This is called quarantine. Quarantine keeps someone who might have been exposed to the virus away from others.

Quarantine helps prevent spread of disease that can occur before a person knows they are sick or if they are infected with the virus without feeling symptoms. People in quarantine should stay home, separate themselves from others, monitor their health, and follow directions from their state or local health department.

Quarantine separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick.

Isolation and quarantine help protect the public by preventing exposure to people who have or may have a contagious disease.

Link to low resolution CDC video: What's the difference between isolation and quarantine?

<https://search.cdc.gov/search/index.html?query=isolation+video&sitelimit=&utf8=%E2%9C%93&affiliate=cdc-main>