

# Defining Case, Contact, Isolation, and Quarantine



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# Cases and Contacts

## ▶ Case

- ▶ Someone who has COVID-19
- ▶ Usually has a positive laboratory test
- ▶ Suspect or probable case
  - ▶ Someone exposed to a case who develops symptoms, even if they have not had a test yet

## ▶ Contact

- ▶ Someone who had contact with a case while they were infectious
  - During their illness
  - 2 days before their illness began
- ▶ Three kinds of contact
  - Physical contact
  - Close contact: within 6 feet for 15+ minutes (10 or 30)
  - Proximate contact: more than 6 feet but in the same room for an extended period

# Isolation vs. Quarantine

## ► Isolation

- Keeps sick people separate from healthy people
- Restricted to home or hotel
- Separate space in hospital to limit contact
- For duration of infectiousness
  - 2 days before onset
  - At least 10 days after onset of illness; symptoms must be improving **and** no fever within the past 3 days

## ► Quarantine

- Restricts movement and contact of healthy people who have been exposed
- For 14 days since the last contact with the person who is infected