



County of Yolo

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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MOCK Avian Flu Policy for Isolation and Quarantine

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- A. **PURPOSE:** To establish guidelines for Avian Flu quarantine and isolation of Avian Flu that are consistent with the regulations of the Department of Health and Human Services. In addition, to establish protocols for enforcement of both individual and community measures when higher levels of compliance are required.
- B. **POLICY:** Community containment strategies, including isolation and quarantine, are fundamental health measures used to control the spread of Avian Flu. All strategies have in common the primary goal of preventing person-to-person spread of disease by separating those with disease or at increased risk for developing disease from those at lower risk. Isolation refers to the separation of ill persons with Avian Flu from those who are healthy. Quarantine is the separation or restriction of activities of persons who are not ill but who are believed to have been exposed to Avian Flu and are therefore at highest risk of becoming infected.
- C. **PROCEDURE:**
1. Monitor and evaluate contacts of Avian Flu patients. The recommended duration of quarantine for Avian Flu is generally 10 days from the time of exposure. During that period, contacts should be monitored at least daily for fever and respiratory symptoms.
During a large outbreak or situation of high-risk exposure, consideration should be given to managing contacts with activity restrictions in addition to active monitoring. This combined approach is referred to as quarantine. The purpose of quarantine is to reduce transmission by
 - a. Separating contacts of Avian Flu patients from others:
 - Home quarantine: most suitable for contacts with home environment that can meet their basic needs and in which unexposed household members can be protected from exposure.
 - Household members require no specific precautions as long as the quarantined person remains asymptomatic.
 - b. Monitoring contacts for symptoms:
 - Persons in quarantine may be assessed for symptoms by either active (healthcare officials periodically assess contacts for symptoms) or passive (contacts themselves report the appearance of symptoms) monitoring.

c. Instituting appropriate infection control precautions as soon as symptoms are detected.

- If quarantined person develops symptoms suggestive of Avian Flu, arrangements should be in place for immediate medical evaluation of the patient. Symptomatic persons should be immediately isolated from others in a separate room.

2. Isolate patients who meet the case definition for probable or confirmed Avian Flu.

a. Avian Flu patients should be isolated at home or in a hospital.

- Hospital isolation should be implemented only if clinically necessary, or isolation at home or in a community facility cannot be achieved safely and effectively.
- During the period of home isolation, household members not providing care should be relocated if possible so that only the primary caregiver and the patient remain in the residence. The patients' physician or health department official should evaluate any home being considered as an isolation setting.

YOLO COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER: _____ **(signature)**

DATE _____