## MeCDC Healthcare Epidemiology Patient/Resident/Client (PRC) Cohorting Guidance



Resident Type/Scenario	Room (Ideally)	Bathroom	Placement Additional Notes	Transmission-Based Precautions	PPE
Ideally, it is best to have dedicated staff & have pateints/residents cared for in a dedicated area, with consideration of resident-types:					
Quarantined	Private	Private / separated from others If a commode is used to physically separate bathroom usage, consideration should be taken to where that commode is emptied and cleaning/disinfection of the bathroom after.	Preferably, should be physically separated from other rooms and non-SARS-CoV-2 patients/residents if a mixed unit.  Note: placing them with another quarantined individual could put both at more risk for contracting SARS-CoV-2 if one of the two persons is infected and one is not.	<b>Yes</b> (Standard, Airborne, Contact & Droplet)	Full PPE for duration of quarantine [NIOSH-approved N95 or equivalent or higher-level respirator, gown, gloves, and eye protection (i.e., goggles or a face shield that covers the front and sides of the face]
Symptomatic status pending	Private	Private / separated from others If a commode is used to physically separate bathroom usage, consideration should be taken to where that commode is emptied and cleaning/disinfection of the bathroom after.	Preferably, should be physically separated from other rooms and non-SARS-CoV-2 patients/residents if a mixed unit.  If confirmed SARS-CoV-2 positive, move to dedicated area (when available). See "postive for SARS-CoV-2".	Ves (Standard, Airborne, Contact & Droplet)  •Until infectious etiology identifiedThen institute appropriate transmission-based precautions based on disease type, if necessary.  •If SARS-CoV-2 positive by testing, continue TBP/isolation and see "positive for SARS-CoV-2".	Full PPE until infectious etiology is identified. [NIOSH-approved N95 or equivalent or higher-level respirator, gown, gloves, and eye protection (i.e., goggles or a face shield that covers the front and sides of the face]  *Then institute appropriate PPE for disease type, if necessary.
Positive for SARS-CoV-2	Private	Private / separated from others If a commode is used to physically separate bathroom usage, consideration should be taken to where that commode is emptied and cleaning/disinfection of the bathroom after.	Preferably, should be physically separated from other rooms and non-SARS-CoV-2 patients/residents if a mixed unit.	Yes (Standard, Airborne, Contact & Droplet)	Full PPE for duration of isolation [NIOSH-approved N95 or equivalent or higher-level respirator, gown, gloves, and eye protection (i.e., goggles or a face shield that covers the front and sides of the face]

## Notes:

- When looking to cohort, you want to do so in a way that provides the highest risk mitigation.
  - o If **cohorting of quarantined PRCs** must occur due to capacity, then take the following into consideration when looking at level of risk –with goal of not placing higher risk PRC with a lower risk PRC:
    - How far into quarantine are the PRCs?
    - Is daily symptom monitoring or testing occurring?
    - Are the PRCs immunocompromised?
    - Was the level of risk of the exposure that put the PRC in quarantine of higher or lower risk?
    - Can the PRC mask, practice appropriate hygiene (hand hygiene, toileting, etc.), physical distancing (as much as feasible) in the room?
    - What is the air exchange capabilities of the space/room they will be placed in?
    - How often are the rooms cleaned/disinfected?
- Want to additionally consider what may be transmitted between roommates, such as multi-drug resistant organisms (MDROs) [e.g., MRSA, VRE, ESBL, CRE, Candida auris] or other potentially transmissible organims