TESDA CIRCULAR

SUBJECT: **Amendment to TESDA Circular No. 061, Series of 2021 on the Guidelines in the Management of Covid-19 Cases in the TESDA Offices**		Page 1 of 3 page/s No. 061-A, Series 2021
Date Issued: **29 September 2021**	Effectivity: **Immediately**	Supersedes:

In the interest of the service and in compliance with Resolution No. 132, Series of 2021 dated 10 August 2021, the IATF temporarily suspend the seven (7) day quarantine period of the fully vaccinated individuals based on IATF Resolution No. 124-B, Series of 2021, dated 02 July 2021.

From seven (7) days, fully vaccinated close contacts of COVID-19 confirmed cases need to undergo a mandatory 14-day quarantine period. The testing and quarantine protocols for all close contacts of confirmed COVID-19 patients, regardless of vaccination status, shall comply with the Department of Health Memorandum No. 2020-0512.

IATF Resolution No. 124-B (s.2021) **FROM**	**Department of Health Department Memorandum No. 2020-0512 Interim Omnibus Guidelines on the Prevention, Detection, Isolation, Treatment, and Reintegration Strategies for COVID-19.** **TO**
C. For fully vaccinated individuals who are close contacts of probable and confirmed COVID-19 cases, they may undergo a shortened seven (7)-day quarantine period, provided that the individual remains asymptomatic for the duration of the seven-day period with the first day being the date immediately after the last exposure.	Close contacts shall refer to persons who has experienced any one of the following exposures during the 2 days before and the 14 days after the onset of symptoms of a probable or confirmed case (WHO Public Health Surveillance for COVID-19, 7 Aug 2020): 1. Face-to face contact with a probable or confirmed case within 1 meter and for at least 15 minutes; 2. Direct physical contact with a probable or confirmed case; 3. Direct care for a patient with probable or confirmed COVID-19 disease without using recommended personal protective equipment OR; 4, Other situations as indicated by local risk assessments.

When an asymptomatic close contact is identified and traced, they shall undergo immediate quarantine and be monitored whether or not symptoms will manifest during the 14-day period.

If symptoms did not manifest, they shall be discharged after the 14-day quarantine starting from date of their last exposure;

If symptoms develop, they shall be isolated and be subjected to COVID testing.

- If results are NEGATIVE, they shall be discharged after the completion of 10-day isolation inclusive of at least three (3) days of being asymptomatic.

- If results are POSITIVE:

  - Patients with mild symptoms who have completed at least 10 days of isolation from the onset of illness either at home or a temporary treatment and monitoring facility inclusive of 3 days of being clinically recovered and asymptomatic can be discharged.
  - Patients with moderate, severe or critical symptoms who have completed at least 21 days of isolation in a hospital from the onset of illness, inclusive of 3 days of being clinically recovered and asymptomatic can be discharged.

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A medical clearance from the TESDA Medical Team or LGU must be presented before returning back to work.

This Circular takes effect immediately and shall amend/supersede/revoke any other issuance/s inconsistent herewith.

SEC. ISIDRO S LAPEÑA, PhD, CSEE
Director General