

## RELATED TERMS

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## Quarantine and Isolation: Providing Goods and Services to Home-Quarantined Individuals

### SUMMARY

Public health officials can increase the likelihood that patients under quarantine orders will comply by ensuring that these individuals receive essential goods and services. Routine communication with quarantined individuals should occur with the goal of monitoring health status and verifying the delivery of requisite supplies.

### DESCRIPTION

During the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) outbreak in 2003, Canadian public health officials were faced with the task of providing essential goods and services to individuals under home quarantine. Emergency workers provided these individuals with a variety of supplies, such as medicine and food, as well as special ambulance services, waste disposal measures, and, in some cases, mortuary services. Health officials also implemented a monitoring routine in which health workers contacted quarantined individuals twice daily to check symptoms and verify the delivery of goods and services. Health officials in Toronto, Canada believe the high quarantine compliance rates achieved during the SARS outbreak resulted from the consistent delivery of goods and services to quarantined individuals.

Public health officials should contact quarantined individuals on a regular basis to check for symptoms and ensure that goods and services are delivered. If the public is confident health officials will provide for their needs, then more individuals will be willing to comply with a voluntary quarantine request.

### CITATION

- University of Louisville School of Medicine. "Quarantine and Isolation: Lessons Learned from SARS." 30 November 2003. ([LLIS.gov ID# 9189](#))

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