

# SHANGHAI NOW

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## Two stadiums to be converted for quarantine

Yang Jian

TWO indoor stadiums in Shanghai — one in Minhang District and the other in suburban Jiading District — are under renovation to become central quarantine sites for the city's surging COVID-19 cases, according to the Shanghai Health Commission.

They are being renovated to house positive cases with mild symptoms and asymptomatic infections, said Wu Jinglei, director of the commission.

"The city has made work plans and resource reservations to build or convert eligible sites, such as stadiums and conference centers, into central quarantine sites for asymptomatic cases and those with mild symptoms," Wu told reporters on Wednesday.

Currently, most of the locally transmitted and imported COVID-19 cases and asymptomatic infections are under quarantined treatment at the Shanghai Public Health Clinical Center, the city's designated hospital for COVID-19 patients, in suburban Jinshan District.

According to China's latest edition of the "Diagnosis and Treatment Protocol for Novel Coronavirus Pneumonia," confirmed COVID-19 cases with mild symptoms can be put under central quarantine at designated sites. They will be moved to designated hospitals only if their condition

gets worse.

Meanwhile, local secondary contacts of positive COVID-19 cases, or the contacts of the "close contacts," will be allowed to have two weeks of quarantine at home if conditions allow, Wu said. Five nucleic acid tests will be conducted during the lockdown.

"They must have fixed accommodations in Shanghai and live alone or with family members in a separate apartment," he said. Otherwise, they will still undergo central quarantine for seven days, followed by another week of home quarantine.

The close contacts of positive cases will remain centrally quarantined for 14 days along with another week of home quarantine. Seven PCR tests will be conducted.

More than 30 million nucleic acid tests were conducted between last week, at key subdistricts and towns, which have a higher risk of infection, and low-risk areas.

On Tuesday night, local authorities dismissed a rumor saying Shanghai would be entirely locked down. The rumor circulating online said a citywide lockdown would be imposed in the city for seven days. "We hope residents will not believe in or spread rumors, and the rumormongers who cause social panic will bear legal consequences," Wu stressed.



Residents line up to buy vegetables in a locked-down community in Xinzhuang in Shanghai's Minhang District. — Dong Jun

Volunteers and staff deliver meat, vegetable and rice to more than 150 residents in a community on Jiangning Road. — Jiang Xiaowei

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