

Long-Term Care Provider Call
Wednesday, May 20, 2020
Agenda with Key Guidance

1. Welcome James Joslin

- All calls are muted, session is being recorded
- Hold questions for Q&A session
- 405.271.6868, LTC@health.ok.gov
- Website - ltc.health.ok.gov (LTC COVID-19 Resources)

2. Policy & Guidance Questions

- Is visitation allowable?

Not yet. Guidance pending for June 1st. Drafting guidance to span all provider types while recognizing specific distinctions and populations served. [Governor's Sixth Amended Executive Order, 2020-13](#), and the [Open Up and Recover Safely \(OURS\) Plan](#) states adults over the age of 65 and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions, collectively referred to as "vulnerable individuals" shall stay in their home or place of residence until May 31st.

- Can you use plastic portable table dividers for communal dining?

There has been no change in guidance for communal dining. We considered trade-fair tables with separation barriers, but they were not approved to reduce the distance of separation. Social distancing of six feet or more is still required. Provisions (e.g. limited number of individuals in the dining room at one time, social distancing, infection control measures of only assisting one resident at a time, etc.) may be made for residents requiring assistance with eating.

- Will all assisted living facilities be tested after nursing homes?

We have no information at this time on testing for assisted living, ICF/IID, residential care, or adult day facilities.

- If an employee takes a relative to the doctor, do they need to quarantine for 14 days?

There are no requirements to quarantine an employee based on locations visited. Restriction of duties and assignments would be based on exposure.

- How do I sign up to report to the CDC?

Follow this link to the CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) [Long-Term Care Facility COVID-19 Module](#). Facilities should immediately gain access to the NHSN system and visit the home page for important information, including how to register found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/>. CMS memo [QSO-20-29-NH](#) provides an overview of the registration process.

3. CMS Guidance on Reopening Long-Term Care Facilities

- CMS QSO Memo 20-30-NH, *Nursing Home Reopening Recommendations for State and Local Officials*



- [Press Release](#)
- [QSO Memo 20-30-NH](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

- The above CMS Memo applies to skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) and nursing facilities (NFs) only.
- Overview of recommendations:

The "memorandum provides recommendations for State and local officials to help them determine the level of mitigation needed for their communities' Medicare/Medicaid certified long term care facilities (hereinafter, 'nursing homes") to prevent the transmission of COVID-19." CMS encourages "State leaders to collaborate with the state survey agency, and State and local health departments to decide how these and other criteria or actions should be implemented in their state."

The recommendations are under review.

4. Operation/Status Updates

- Provider training typically held during the summer months has been cancelled.
- Infection control consults continue to be available. Call 405.271.6868, or LTC@health.ok.gov
- Focused Surveys are continuing.
- Task Force teams are actively visiting homes for testing or to review infection control practices.
- Previous [Guidance To Task Force In The Event A Facility, Resident Or Employee Declines COVID-19 Testing](#) was revised as of May 19, 2020 and reissued to the Task Force teams and includes:
 - Clarification on expectations regarding facility employees that decline mandated testing. This applies when the Department Health or the Oklahoma City or Tulsa Health Department task forces notify the facility it is to complete baseline testing of all residents and staff.
 - Facility employees refusing to test would not be scheduled to work until they agree to be tested and receive a negative test.
 - The guidance issued explains that testing of staff is authorized as a requirement to health care employees.
- N95 Fit-Testing
 - OSDH will follow-up with nursing facilities/skilled nursing facilities who have COVID exposure to determine the need for Fit-Testing.
 - Information will be obtained pertaining to the number of employees needing to be Fit-Tested.
 - Facility must identify what type of N95 respirator is available in the facility.
 - N95 Fit-Testing vendor will be notified and vendor will contact facility.
- National Guard Cleaning
 - Occurring in NFs/SNFs and ICF/IID facilities.



- Information on cleaning of assisted living and other long-term care facility types has not been provided at this time.
- If NFs/SNFs or ICF/IID facilities are interested in the cleaning send information to LTC@health.ok.gov and include:
 - Contact name (not facility name)
 - Contact phone number
 - License Number (NH number, not CCN 375 number)
- This information does not commit the facility to the cleaning.
- National Guard representative will contact facility and evaluate.
- Reporting Requirements
 - Report within 24 hours of suspected infectious disease outbreak.
 - If facility suspects or believes a resident or staff member is COVID+ the facility must report the information to OSDH.
- CMPs for communication devices. Application process is open.
 - In recognition of the potential hardship and difficulty visitation restrictions place on nursing home residents and their families, CMS developed an application template for requests for the use of Civil Money Penalty (CMP) Reinvestment funds to provide residents with adaptive communicative technologies. State agencies can approve applications that meet the defined CMS parameters without review by CMS. CMS anticipates that this process will reduce the amount of time needed to review and approve the use of funds for communicative technology.
 - Use the following linked instructions and application:
 - [Communicative Technology Cover Letter Instructions](#)
 - [COVID-19 Communicative Technology Application Template](#)

5. Questions and Answers

6. Next Session May 27th, 2020 1:00 PM-2:30 PM