



OKLAHOMA

State Department of Health

Important Updates

March 27, 2020

(webpage links are in red)

Recording of Long-Term Webinar on Wednesday, March 25th.

The Long-Term Care Survey Division, Mike Cook, Service Director, along with James Joslin, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, provided the first in a series of weekly Webex's on Wednesday, March 25, 2020: Long-Term Care Provider Webex—COVID-19 Updates. [Click here to access the recording of that Webex.](#) You may need to download the Cisco Webex player.

Tune in each Wednesday at 2:00 to receive the most current updates and guidance related to the prevention and management of the coronavirus. Watch these updates for next Wednesday's next call in number.

Governor's Executive Order Clarified—End of Life Visitation

The office of the Governor provided guidance and clarification to Governor Stitt's Fifth Amended Executive Order 2020-07 which indicated "Visitors are prohibited from entering and visiting patients and residents at nursing homes, long-term care facilities, and retirement homes."

Governor's Stitt's Order was intended to align with similar directions and orders from the federal government's Department of Health & Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). On March 13, 2020, CMS issued a Memorandum which provided in part:

"Facilities should restrict visitation of all visitors and non-essential health care personnel, except for certain compassionate care situations, such as an end-of-life situation. In those cases, visitors will be limited to a specific room only....For individuals

that enter in compassionate situations (e.g., end-of-life care), facilities should require visitors to perform hand hygiene and use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), such as facemasks...”

Therefore, Governor Stitt’s Order should be read to permit such “compassionate care” visits to Oklahoma’s nursing homes, long-term care facilities, and retirement homes, if conducted in accordance with the guidelines in the CMS Memorandum cited above.

[Click here to view the full description of the clarification.](#)

Governor’s Executive Order Amended—Occupational Licenses

On March 27, 2020, Governor Kevin Stitt provided the Fifth Amended Executive Order 2020-07 located at: <https://www.sos.ok.gov/documents/executive/1923.pdf> to include the following emergency measures:

Licensing Reciprocity:

- Temporarily extending licensing reciprocity for health care professionals, like doctors and nurses, who hold licenses to practice in other states. See Additional paragraph six of the Executive Order 2020-07.

Workforce concerns:

- Extended expiration dates for all occupational licenses issued by any State agency, board or commission during the Declared State of Emergency period. See Additional paragraph seven of the Executive Order 2020-07.
- Advanced practice registered nurses, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses and advanced - unlicensed assistants who have lapsed or inactive licenses or certifications may have their single-state license or certification reinstated if they submit a reinstatement application and fee. See Additional paragraph thirteen of the Executive Order 2020-07.
- Advanced practice, licensed nurses and unlicensed assistants who is identified as being Oklahoma Tax Commission noncompliant, as set forth in 68 OS § 238.1 (E), is hereby waived as long as this Order remains in effect. See Additional paragraph fourteen of the Executive Order 2020-07.

You can see all the latest executive orders here:

<https://www.sos.ok.gov/gov/execorders.aspx>

Important Information for Facilities

Facilities are required to notify the Oklahoma State Department of Health when there is a change in contact or facility information. We recently sent out an email survey and used the current email contact for each facility that is listed in our data base. However we received notice that some facilities did not receive the information. Please complete the [Change of Notice](#) form and update your preferred facility contact(s) and include one or two facility email addresses. If personal emails are used, and the employee leaves, then you will not receive important notifications. Please complete as soon as possible as we are sending numerous notifications frequently.”

Do you have MDS or OASIS questions?

Contact the QIES Help Desk at (405) 271-5278

MDShelp@health.ok.gov or OASIShelp@health.ok.gov

Your Oklahoma QIES Help Desk team -

Diane Henry, State RAI Coordinator

Wanda Roberts, State Automation Coordinator

Holly Murphy, RN Consultant

Danita Leyndyke, Administrative Assistant



Quality Improvement and
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