



OKLAHOMA

State Department of Health

Important CMS Updates and Webinar Recordings

April 3, 2020

(webpage links are in red)

COVID-19 Long-Term Care Facility Guidance from CMS

CMS and CDC have issued [new recommendations](#) to nursing homes and long-term care facilities in general to help mitigate the spread of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

On March 13, 2020, CMS issued unprecedented targeted direction to the long-term care facility industry instructing them to prohibit visitors and follow strict infection control and other [screening recommendations](#). However, recent observations made by CDC and CMS experts onsite in facilities have emphasized that even more must be done to universally implement this key guidance. Therefore, CMS and the Department of Health are issuing revised guidance that includes:

- For the duration of the state of emergency in Oklahoma, [all long-term care facility personnel should wear a facemask while they are in the facility.](#)
- In accordance with [previous CDC preparedness guidance](#), **every** individual regardless of reason entering a long-term care facility, (including residents, staff, visitors, outside healthcare workers, vendors, etc.) should be asked about COVID-19 symptoms **and they must also have their temperature checked. Temperature checks of staff should be done at entrance, mid-shift and at end of shift for all shifts of 7 hours or more.** An exception to this is Emergency Medical Service (EMS) workers responding to an urgent medical need. They do not have to be screened, as they are typically screened separately.
- In accordance with [previous CDC guidance for nursing homes](#), **every** resident should be assessed for symptoms and [have their temperature checked daily](#)

- Full PPE should be worn per CDC guidelines for the care of any resident with known or suspected COVID-19 per [CDC guidance on conservation of PPE](#).
- **If COVID-19 transmission occurs in the facility, healthcare personnel should wear full PPE for the care of all residents irrespective of COVID-19 diagnosis or symptoms**
- When possible, all long-term care facility residents, whether they have COVID-19 symptoms or not, should cover their noses and mouths when staff are in their room. Residents may use tissues for this, or could also use cloth, or non-medical masks when available.

[Please click here to view the most recent information regarding infection control compliance, PPE, prevention of transmission and more.](#)

Recording of Long-Term Webinar on Wednesday, April 1st.

The Long-Term Care Survey Division, Mike Cook, Service Director, along with James Joslin, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, provided the second 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 will 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.

*Please note the CDC and CMS guidance updates frequently and each WebEx contains current information that is available at the time of the recording.

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

Due to some technical difficulties, some people had trouble accessing the webinar recording from last week. [Here is the link for last week's webinar](#), but please keep in mind that the current health crisis is an ever-evolving situation, and some information may have changed since the time of this recording. We apologize for any inconvenience the issues may have caused.

**Do you have MDS or OASIS questions?
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