



March 31, 2023

Personal Protective Equipment and Screening for Home Health Agencies:

Authority:

- [Guidance for use of Certain Industrial Respirators by Health Care Personnel \(QSO-20-17-ALL\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Focused Infection Control Survey Tool for Acute and Continuing Care Providers and Suppliers \(REVISED\) \[QSO-21-08-NLTC REVISED 09/26/2022\]](#)

Applicability: This guidance applies to Home Health Agencies certified by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Under [Oregon Administrative Rule 333-027-0001\(1\)](#), licensed Home Health Agencies in Oregon must meet all requirements in the CMS Conditions of Participation for Home Health Agencies programs found in 42 CFR Part 484 regardless of CMS certification status.

I. Personal Protective Equipment

Agencies subject to this guidance shall adopt and enforce policies and procedures that align with the CMS requirement that certified agencies to implement health care setting masking recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for healthcare personnel, patients, support persons, clients, and visitors. CDC continues to recommend use of Personal Protective Equipment for the care of patient with suspect or confirmed COVID-19 as outlined in [CDC Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations](#). The CDC definition of healthcare settings includes Home Health Agencies. OHA guidance for Home Health Agencies aligns with the CDC guidance.

II. Screening

CMS guidance instructs facilities and agencies to follow [CDC recommendations](#) regarding infection control guidance, including screening. Further, CMS states that “Facilities should continue to consult with state and local public health officials to determine if modifications to visitation and screening are appropriate on a case by case basis.”

Document accessibility: For individuals with disabilities or individuals who speak a language other than English, OHA can provide information in alternate formats such as translations, large print, or braille. If you need this document in an alternate format please contact our office at 971-673-0540 or mailbox.hclc@odhsoha.oregon.gov.