Department of Human Services
Safety, Oversight and Quality
PO Box 14530, Salem, OR 97309
3406 Cherry Ave NE, Salem, OR 97303
Phone: (503) 373-2227
Fax (503) 378-8966

Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Oregon Department of Human Services

NF-20-160 – Provider Alert

Date: December 23, 2020

To: All Nursing Facilities
All Assisted Living Facilities
All Residential Care Facilities

FROM: DHS Safety Oversight and Quality (SOQ)
Office of Aging and People with Disabilities

Re: **Updated 12/23/2020 - New Health and Safety Framework for Long-Term Care Facility Settings**

_____

On November 25, 2020 Governor Kate Brown introduced a new framework related to reopening strategies and statewide COVID-19 positivity rates. This four-tiered system will identify each county in Oregon based on low risk, moderate, high and extreme risk of COVID-19 exposure. Activities in each county will be adjusted according to these risk measurements.

Oregon Health Authority now publishes its county data for each two-week period as of December 3, 2020 here: Oregon COVID-19 Counties & Risk Levels Table. (link updated 12/23/2020)

Additionally, as of December 23, 2020, data reflected in two-week increments can be found here. This data table, currently titled School Metrics, will be renamed shortly in order to be more reflective of all parties using it including long-term care. A graphic that details the functionality of the two-week data release can be found here: Two-week risk level period

The risk level associated with each county (e.g. low risk, moderate, high, and extreme risk) will *only* change *every two weeks*, providing counties with a "*warning week*" of data to prepare for potential risk level changes. For example, if cases of COVID-19 in a county rose to a level warranting an increase in designation for the period from December 3-17, 2020, the county's status would remain constant with a "warning" being issued December 10,

indicating possible changes to county risk level status for the next two week period.

Every two weeks, long-term care facilities need to determine their county's risk level based on the OHA Table and review the Guidance by Activity Table which specifies allowable activities based on the facility corresponding county risk level.

Please note: Any long-term care facilities with an active Executive Order (EO) should follow the EO guidelines pertaining to restricted activities such as visitation.

Facilities that qualified for indoor visits on December 3, 2020, should review the limited indoor visitation policy which was issued on October 23, 2020.

As a reminder, the following visitation policy guidance pertains to all facilities, including those where limited indoor visitation policies are not applicable because of extreme county risk status.

- Compassionate care visits
- Limited outdoor visitation

If you have any questions, please contact your respective licensing team:

CBC.team@dhsoha.state.or.us
NF.licensing@dhsoha.state.or.us

For general information about the DHS Office of Safety, Oversight and Quality, please click here: Safety, Oversight and Quality Unit

---

ePOC Practice Tip:

Facility Administration - ASPEN Web: e POC (electronic Plan of Correction) is the centralized worksite for completing all steps in CMS & State survey POC processing including:

- Receiving and reviewing Statements of Deficiencies (SODs),
- Formulating POCs,
- Submitting POCs and if desired,
- Attaching supporting Informal Dispute Resolution request & documents.

Register and maintain an active ePOC account to efficiently access your surveys, and at no cost to your facility. ePOC registration passwords are effective for 90 days and must be renewed timely to maintain an active ePOC account. As an active ePOC user, you will receive notifications of pending password expiration with renewal instructions. It may also be advantageous to have multiple ePOC registrants for your facility to ensure an active ePOC account is maintained at all times. For ePOC assistance and/or questions contact QTSO (https://www.qtso.com).