



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

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

Ref: NF-20-95 Information Memo

Date: June 19, 2020

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

FROM: DHS Safety Oversight and Quality Unit

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Precautions Continue

Attention all Long-Term Care Providers -

Counties all across Oregon are in various stages of re-opening and business services are beginning to resume. Though this may be exciting news, it does not mean our work is done. It is imperative that we not lose our focus on resident care practices that include observing physical distancing practices and strict infection control procedures. Though restrictions are being relaxed the risk of COVID-19 transmission is still very real. Oregon's older adults living in long-term care facilities are especially susceptible to complications related to COVID-19 and there is still more work to be done as we aim to ensure the health, safety and wellness of vulnerable Oregonians.

In support of this aim, it is vital that providers in long-term care settings maintain a vigilant focus on:

- Infection control procedures;
 - The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) offers literature about infection control guidelines on their website: [CDC](#)
- Appropriate donning, doffing and disposal of protective masks, gowns, gloves and other types of personal protective equipment (PPE);
 - An updated PPE training video can be found [here](#).
 - [OSHA recommendations for long-term care workers](#).
- **Caregivers who enter the room of a resident with known or suspected COVID-19 should adhere to Standard Precautions and use a respirator (or facemask if a respirator is not available), gown, gloves, and eye protection;**

- **Cloth face coverings are NOT PPE and should not be worn for providing direct care.**
- **Whenever possible, a properly fitted N95 respirator should be used for direct care. If respirators are not available, a facemask/face shield may be used.**
- Regular wellness screening of staff, residents and essential visitors within the licensed setting;
- Limitations on visitor access except during end-of-life situations; and
- ***Reporting all suspected and confirmed cases for both residents and staff*** to the appropriate team within the Safety, Oversight and Quality Unit as well as your local public health office. Nursing facilities are also report to CDC per CMS guidance.
 - Nursing facilities: NF.Licensing@dhs.oregon.gov
 - ALF/RCF: CBC.Team@dhs.oregon.gov
 - Adult foster homes: APD.AFHTeam@dhs.oregon.gov (except those in Multnomah County)

For general information about the DHS Office of Safety, Oversight and Quality, visit the DHS Web site at www.oregon.gov/DHS/.