

CUYAHOGA COUNTY  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION

**LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY (LTCF) INSPECTIONS  
COVID-19 RESPONSE INVESTIGATIONS**

***How does the facility rapidly identify and manage ill patients?***

- Isolate patients one per room or cohort two confirmed ill patients together
- Have healthcare workers stay on either the sick or healthy sides of the building whenever possible
- Regular health screenings, taking temperatures etc.
- Primary care physician must order tests or company doctor can do it
- Good communication with families, staff and local health department is critical

***Proper PPE plan for isolation, quarantine and general patient rooms***

- Drivers
- Environmental services
- Housekeeping
- Isolation - N95 + surgical masks, gloves, gowns, eye protection and booties
- Kitchen
- Landscaping
- Office supplies
- Outdoor areas and recreation rooms
- Part-time or “rental” employees
- Quarantine - surgical mask, eye protection and gloves

## ***Environmental Services***

- Body fluid Clean-up
- Laundry
- Modesty dividers, bed rails, trail tables etc.
- Nurse carts, medicine caddies, storage for PPE
- Room refrigerators-no storing food
- STNAs
- Trash removal

Focus on assist bars, handrails, door handles, key pads and entrances and exits

Commonly used items must be disinfected after each patient's use and on a continual basis.

Whenever possible, discontinue moving any products or equipment from room to room:

- Beverage service cart
- Book exchange, movies, games or puzzles
- Kitchenettes where snacks, beverages and ice is stored
- Medication station/medical records computer stand

## ***Patient transfer***

- Emergency – hospital ambulance
- Family transport suspended
- Routine transport – agency van vs. private ambulance
- Suspend non-essential (pedicure, massage, PT)

Discontinue moving patients from rooms whenever possible and regularly disinfect commonly used surfaces between patients:

- Bathing rooms, water therapy, shower rooms
- Beauty salons and barber shops closed
- Dining rooms and community rooms should be closed
- Gift shops closed
- Physical therapy rooms

***Persons entering the facility***

- All entertainment suspended
- Art therapy and animal therapy suspended
- Family
- Food delivery including drop key (after hours)
- Hospice
- Licensed pest control operator
- Maintenance and repair
- Religious personnel
- Specialty physicians
- Suspend visitors and tours
- Visiting doctors and nurse practitioners

Limit entrances, one-way door locks with signage

- “Do not prop open this door”
- “Never leave open doors unattended”
- “Employees Only”

### ***Staffing Considerations***

- Employees may be working at more than one facility
- Staffing levels could be a major concern
- Could have asymptomatic carriers among staff
- Ask for evidence of staff education and regular updates as situation is continuously evolving

### **Situational Awareness**

- Testing supplies are limited
- PPE is limited – discuss with local board of health
- Facilities should be using telehealth as much as possible to minimize traffic and exposure
- A statewide list of facilities that have had either a resident or staff member test positive for COVID-19 at any time during this pandemic is posted on the Ohio Department of Health’s website as of April 16, 2020

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