

COVID-19 Checklist for Long-Term Care Facilities

Top 5 Things You Can Do to Protect Against COVID-19

Ohio Department of Health Director Amy Acton, M.D., MPH, has ordered that all long-term care facilities suspend visitation. The order:

- Provides exceptions for visitors of residents in end-of-life care, hospice employees, and clergy members.
- Allows access only to personnel who are necessary for the operation of facilities (such as staff, contracted and emergency healthcare providers, contractors conducting critical on-site maintenance, and governmental representatives and regulators and their contractors).
- Requires facilities to keep a log of all people who are granted access.

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) [guidance](#) states that nursing homes should continue to admit residents they would normally admit, including residents who have been hospitalized, following the best practice of isolation to the extent possible for 14 days while monitoring for COVID-19 symptoms.

A nursing home can accept a resident diagnosed with COVID-19 and still under precaution as long as the facility can follow CDC guidance for [Transmission-Based Precautions](#). If a nursing home cannot, it must wait until precautions are discontinued.

Dr. Acton also strongly recommends that all long-term care facilities immediately take the following actions:

- To reduce feelings of isolation, use telephone calls, videoconferencing, and other methods to connect residents with family and other former visitors.** Consider having a communal laptop that residents can use for video chatting; disinfect between uses.
- Allow sick employees to stay home.** Screen employees at the start of their shifts and send home anyone who has signs or symptoms of COVID-19. Develop sick leave policies that allow employees to stay home if they have symptoms or a respiratory infection.

- Encourage good cough etiquette and hand hygiene.** Retrain staff and residents on hand-washing and cough etiquette. Ensure staff wash their hands before and after every interaction with each resident. Consider posting visual reminders of proper hand-washing and cough etiquette. Place alcohol-based sanitizer both inside and outside of patient rooms, and make sure tissues are available.

- Separate ill residents to limit spread of disease.** Separate residents with respiratory symptoms (see above) from other residents; however do not allow residents with symptoms to interact unless the cause of their illness is confirmed to be the same.

- Increase cleaning.** Increase the frequency of cleaning of shared surfaces with EPA-approved cleaning products. Limit sharing of medical equipment.

For additional information, visit coronavirus.ohio.gov.

For answers to your COVID-19 questions, call 1-833-4ASKODH (1-833-427-5634).

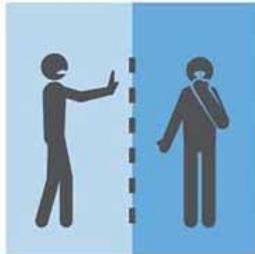
Protect yourself and others from
COVID-19 by taking these precautions.

PREVENTION

For additional information call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH or visit coronavirus.ohio.gov.



STAY HOME



PRACTICE
SOCIAL
DISTANCING



GET ADEQUATE SLEEP
AND EAT WELL-
BALANCED
MEALS



WASH HANDS OFTEN
WITH WATER AND SOAP
(20 SECONDS
OR LONGER)



DRY HANDS WITH
A CLEAN TOWEL
OR AIR DRY
YOUR HANDS



COVER YOUR MOUTH
WITH A TISSUE OR
SLEEVE WHEN
COUGHING OR SNEEZING



AVOID TOUCHING
YOUR EYES, NOSE,
OR MOUTH WITH
UNWASHED HANDS
OR AFTER
TOUCHING SURFACES



CLEAN AND DISINFECT
"HIGH-TOUCH"
SURFACES OFTEN



CALL BEFORE VISITING
YOUR DOCTOR



PRACTICE GOOD
HYGIENE HABITS