

# Novel Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19)

## Health Care Isolation Center Plan DRAFT




### April 6, 2020

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## I. Introduction

The Health care Isolation Center Plan was developed to support the provision of guidance to local level congregate facilities within each planning zone for the establishment of a comprehensive health care isolation center designed to serve both people who no longer need hospital services but are not ready to return home. In addition, they can serve as a safety net for individuals living in congregate settings who cannot be cared for safely where they live but who do not require hospitalization. Isolation centers should not be used when an individual can be treated safely where they live (including a NF) or when the individual does not have a presumptive or confirmed diagnosis.

<b>Patient/Resident COVID-19 Status</b>		
One of the most important things we can do during this public health crisis is to identify and physically separate individuals based on their exposure to and contraction of COVID-19. This action is necessary to prevent the spread of the infection to both patients/residents and health care personnel. With this in mind, patients/residents should be divided into the following three status categories: no exposure, exposed, and COVID-19 +.		
<b>No Exposure</b> <i>No Symptoms</i>  <p>Many residents appear well and are able to receive care as they would under usual circumstances. Even with these individuals, staff should create a culture of safety and practice vigilant sanitation and cleaning (e.g. frequent handwashing, daily sanitation) and staff interacting with non-exposed patients/residents should wear facemasks.</p>	<b>Exposed</b> <i>No Symptoms</i>  <p>A subset of patients/residents will be notified by the local health district and/or will have known direct contact for an extended period of time with someone who has contracted COVID-19. These individuals require careful monitoring for a 14 day period, and additional PPE should be used when interacting with people in this status.</p>	<b>COVID-19 +</b> <i>Confirmed or Suspected</i>  <p>At this point in the pandemic, all people who have respiratory symptoms and those who have tested positive for the illness should be carefully assessed and monitored for escalating symptoms. We realize that this categorization is not perfect, as the CDC recently acknowledged that people who have COVID-19 are infectious 2 days before symptoms appear. With an abundance of caution, we recommend additional required PPE when working with these individuals, as outlined in this document.</p>

The role of health care isolation centers in Ohio's COVID-19 response is illustrated in [Appendix 3](#).

The State of Ohio's Nursing Facility Work group identified the requirements for selection and the necessary essential services required for the successful implementation of a health care isolation center. The guidance in this Health care Isolation Center Plan will assist nursing facilities in the development and operational management of health care isolation center operations within the State. This plan anticipates that health care isolation centers will be established at the local level through collaboration with local partners. If resource needs of a locally managed health care isolation center are unable to be met by local sources, the State of Ohio will provide assistance in locating resources. Resource requests should follow [Appendix 4](#).

## II. Definitions

- **Health care Isolation centers** provide a "COVID level of care" that includes a NF level of care and a COVID-19 diagnosis (tested or presumed). This facility-based health care center will serve both individuals post hospitalization who are not ready to return to their prior residence due to medical care and isolation needs, as well as individuals who cannot receive needed care in their congregate setting but whose level of need does not rise to the level of hospitalization. Isolation centers should not be used when an individual can be treated safely where they live (including a NF) or when the individual does not have a presumptive or confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19. Isolation centers must be located in separate identifiable capacity. There may be isolation centers that can provide ventilator-level care, but many will not be able to provide this level of respiratory care.
- **Congregate settings** include nursing facilities, residential care facilities and other licensed facilities where individuals reside and receive services.

- **COVID-19 level of care** requires a level of care comparable to that required for admission to a nursing home, a COVID-19 diagnosis (tested or presumed) and a physician order.
- **COVID-19 care needs** can be classified in the following 4 levels:
  - Individuals at **Level 1** have minor symptoms. The preference is that individuals at level 1 remain in their residences (including nursing facilities).
  - Individuals at **Level 2** require oxygen or other respiratory treatment. They should be monitored carefully for signs of deterioration.
  - Individuals at **Level 3** do not require hospitalization in all cases but may require care beyond a traditional NF's capacity. This may include ventilator and other medical care if the isolation center can safely provide care to the individual.
  - Individuals at **Level 4** are individuals at Level 3 who are deteriorating and require hospitalization. They require urgent assessment by medical personnel and may require intensive care.
- **Health care facility** is a licensed and/or certified facility that provides medical care.

### III. Health Care Isolation Center Purpose

Isolation centers can play an important role in Ohio's response to COVID 19 by relieving pressure on the hospital systems for post-acute care, as well as support existing health care personnel and resources before hospitalization is required. There is a strong preference is to manage the spread of COVID-19 by treating individuals in place whenever possible, including in nursing and other congregate facilities, although in some circumstances isolation centers may be needed. Unlike Quarantine Station centers, isolation centers only serve individuals with active COVID-19 infection requiring health care services with a COVID level of care. Primarily, isolation centers will provide the medical care required for the full convalescence of the COVID-19 infection. There may be health care isolation centers that can provide ventilator-level care.

Health care Isolation centers will be strategically located within the existing public health hospital zones (Appendix 5):

- Zone 1: Northeast, Northeast Central and Northwest
- Zone 2: Central, Southeast Central and Southeast
- Zone 3: Southwest and West Central

### IV. Assumptions

This is an evolving pandemic which has required the State of Ohio to declare a state of emergency. The following are assumptions related to the COVID-19 pandemic and health care isolation centers:

The health care isolation center will be developed and approved to meet the need within each public health hospital zone.

- There may be shortages of PPE and medical supplies for health care isolation center staff.
- There may be asymptomatic COVID+ health care staff working in the health care isolation centers.
- Individuals in isolation centers will have significant health care needs.
- All health care isolation centers must be able to provide level 3 care; not all health care isolations centers will provide ventilator care.

### V. Personal Protective Equipment

Prior to approval as a COVID-19 isolation center, the center must have plans addressing at least the following areas. Primary responsibility for meeting capacity requirements rests with the health care isolation center.

Existing public health hospital zones are responsible for assisting the isolation center in meeting the needs of individuals services as appropriate.

- All personnel at health care isolation centers should wear extended and re-use masks.
- The health care isolation center should have adequate supplies of PPE in accordance with current procurement plans and protocols. If available, medical PPE provided will include, but is not limited to:
  - N95 disposable respirators,
  - Goggles / face shield
  - Disposable gowns, and
  - Disposable gloves
- The health care isolation center should use PPE in accordance with the guidance set forth in **Appendix 6.**
- Use of PPE items may be subject to extended use and reuse per state guidance.

## VI. Individuals Served in Health Care Isolation Centers

In order to limit the spread of the virus, admission to isolation centers must be limited to individuals who either have a positive COVID-19 test result or a presumptive COVID-19 diagnosis.

- Isolation centers must be prepared to admit individuals from congregate settings and hospitals. The isolation center may serve as a step-down setting after a hospital stay if necessary, to maintain isolation or meet clinical needs.
- Individuals admitted to the isolation center must have a COVID level of care.
- No individual should be transferred to a health care isolation center if they can safely be served in their home (including congregate settings). The determination that someone can be safely served at home or in a nursing home will be made in accordance with guidelines issued by the Ohio Department of Health.
- The operator of an isolation center must coordinate hospital transfers and discharge from the isolation center using the processes created in the regional zone.
- Isolation centers will assume responsibility for discharge planning including:
  - Ensuring discharge from the isolation center is clinically indicated. A decision that discharge is appropriate will be made in accordance with guidelines issued by the Ohio Department of Health, **Appendix 7.**
  - Discharge from the isolation center requires a physician's order.
  - Ensuring discharge to a setting aligned with the individual's preferences where the individual's clinical needs can be met. If the individual was receiving services in a NF when he or she became ill, in most cases the individual should return to the same NF.
  - Transfer of an individual from the health care isolation center to a hospital requires coordination with the regional public health zone triage official. (Refer to diagram)
- Individuals treated at the isolation center are not candidates for novel therapies that include multi-patient ventilator use.

## VII. Health Care Isolation Center Providers

- The care provided in a health care isolation center is complex and requires clinical expertise in care for individuals with respiratory illnesses. This may include ventilator care.
- Only providers with demonstrated history of providing care at acceptable levels of quality and safety will be considered as potential operators of isolation centers. A nursing facility on the Special Focus

Facility list will not be considered as a possible operator of an isolation center. The operator's compliance history will be considered.

- When approving requests for approval as an isolation center, any necessary surveys will be completed. ODH will consider requests from the following:
  - A new health care facility ready for survey
  - A health care facility with a pending application
  - A health care operator/owner who has closed or vacant health care facility.
  - A health care facility with unused/closed floor or wing which can be dedicated to this isolation center only, must be able to be closed off from other parts of the building and have dedicated staff which is not shared between the 2 areas
  - An RCF which was previously an NH which could be easily converted back with minimal interruptions to current residents
  - A health care facility who has recently decreased their capacity and can increase capacity with minimal movement of current residents. The isolation center must be able to be closed off from other parts of the building and have dedicated staff.
  - A health care operator/owner who could consolidate residents into one building freeing up space in another building
  - Operators of isolation centers must have clinical capacity to provide care to individuals with presumed or confirmed COVID-19 diagnoses at Levels 1, 2 and 3 and other comorbidities of the individual.

## VIII. Health Care Isolation Center Regulatory Oversight

- Individuals interested in operating an isolation center should contact the Ohio Department of Health as set forth in **Appendix 8**.
- COVID-19 health care isolation centers will comply with the rules and guidelines issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) as any bed capacity increase will be in certified beds only pursuant to the 1135 waivers issued by CMS, and any additional conditions as stated below.
- Isolation centers must be in separate identifiable capacity. Separate identifiable capacity requires a separate building or wing AND a separate entrance.
- Isolation centers must comply with all rules and guidelines promulgated by CMS for participation in the Medicare/Medicaid program as well as additional conditions related to staffing, infection control and respiratory care.
- The State Long Term Care Ombudsman will have the same role and access to isolation centers as nursing homes.
- All protocols related to COVID-19 issued by the CDC, CMS and ODH for nursing facilities apply to health care isolation centers.
- ODH may approve a waiver of capacity limits on behalf of CMS to increase the number of people that may receive services in an isolation center. For example, circumstances that may lead to a waiver of capacity limit include the following
  - Relicensing rooms that were previously delicensed for the period of time the facility is operated as a health care isolation center.
  - Converting single rooms to double rooms for the period of time the facility is operated as an health care isolation center.
- Repurposing common space to create a multi-bed ward for the period of time the facility is operated as an isolation center.
  - Health care Isolation Centers must meet the following additional staffing requirements:
- Dedicated full time infection control personnel.

- An isolation center providing services with one or more individuals using ventilators must have a respiratory therapist in the facility 24/7. (If providing ventilator care, the isolation center must be able to meet physical plant, including back-up power sources, and staffing requirements necessary to provide services to individuals using ventilators,
  - The isolation center must have access to a pulmonologist or clinician who can help manage individuals with COVID-19. This may be done through telemedicine.
- The staffing plan should not create staff shortages at other facilities or HCBS providers operated by the isolation center operator.
- Staff working in the isolation center can only work in the isolation center during the time the isolation center is opened.
- Must have access to all medications prescribed for their patients, including oxygen, bronchodilators and associated supplies.
- The facility must be able to share patient information with pharmacies, hospitals, nursing facilities, and outpatient clinicians.
  - There will be enhanced state oversight of COVID-19 health care isolation centers. Enhanced oversight will include check-in phone calls, weekly notification of admissions, discharges and transfers to and from the isolation center, and appropriate technical assistance.

## IX. Fiscal Considerations

- Health care Isolation centers will be reimbursed using a tiered flat per diem rate system that matches reimbursement to the COVID care needs . Per diem rates will be established using high need RUGS weights and Ohio NF cost experience. **Draft** rates under consideration are as follows:
  - Level 1: \$300 per day
  - Level 2: \$448 per day
  - Level 3: \$820 per day
  - Level 3 on ventilator: \$984 per day
- ODM will collaborate with the managed care plans to determine the most appropriate way to reimburse the isolation centers for individuals who are enrolled in those plans.
- Patient liability applies to the isolation center payments.
- The Ohio nursing facility franchise fee applies to licensed beds. Health care isolation center beds will fall into three different categories.
  - Beds that are **not** currently licensed as SNF beds will be **certified only** as nursing facility beds for the duration of the health care isolation facility program. These beds will not be subject to the franchise fee.
  - Beds that are **currently licensed as SNF beds but not certified** will be certified as nursing facility beds for the duration of the health care isolation center program. These beds will remain subject to the franchise fee.
  - Beds that are **currently licensed and certified as SNF beds** and are repurposed as isolation center beds for the duration of the health care isolation center program will remain subject to the franchise fee.
  - Nursing facilities also have the ability to temporarily add beds to create surge capacity for non-COVID related needs in their communities. Franchise fee will be calculated for those beds in the same manner it is calculated for beds added for purposes of creating health care isolation centers.
- ODM will identify any additional cost report accounts or schedules that are needed to appropriately capture the costs, revenues and utilization related to isolation centers.
- If individuals receiving care in a health care isolation center are not eligible for Medicaid, enrollment will be completed by attestation. Patient liability will be calculated based on the financial information

provided by the individual through the attestation process. (Note that in the alternative, hospitals may choose to complete a presumptive eligibility determination prior to an individual's discharge.)

## X. Technical Assistance

The Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Department of Medicaid will provide designated technical assistance teams to support providers during the start-up, operation and closure of Health care Isolation Centers. The technical assistance team will include resources from both state agencies.

## XI. Closing Isolation Centers

A health care isolation center shall continue to exist until such time that CMS rescinds the 1135 waiver allowing for temporary expansion bed capacity for the care and treatment of residents with COVID-19. A certified bed increase granted to a health care isolation center shall be temporary. The beds shall not be sold or transferred between nursing facilities.

## Appendix 1: Public Health Guidance for Health Care Isolation Centers

This appendix provides public health guidance for health care isolation center staff. As we know, this is an evolving pandemic with new data and information produced frequently. COVID-19 occurs primarily through respiratory droplets, person-to-person contact (within about 6 feet), and from surfaces that have been contaminated with the virus. For this reason, all personnel at health care isolation centers should wear extended and re-use masks, the guidance provided below describes additional precautions needed to ensure safety of all individuals.

Current science suggests that SARS-CoV-2 may remain viable for hours to days on a variety of surface types. Frequent cleaning and disinfection of surfaces is the best practice to prevent transmission of COVID-19 and other viral respiratory illness in a home, quarantine station and health care isolation center.

It is the intent of this appendix to provide the most current and accurate guidance available for the protection of patients receiving care in health care isolation centers, the health care isolation center staff, volunteers, and service providers. This list of public health guidance is subject to change as the data and science evolves around this pandemic.

### A. LAUNDERING LINEN AND CLOTHING

Guidance for general household laundering (Interim Recommendations for US Households with Suspected / Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019) <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/cleaning-disinfection.html>

#### 1. Clothing, towels, linens and other items that go in the laundry

- Wear disposable gloves when handling dirty laundry from an ill person and then discard the gloves after each use. If using reusable gloves, those gloves should be dedicated for cleaning and disinfection of surfaces for COVID-19 and should not be used for other household purposes. Thoroughly wash [hands](#) immediately after gloves are removed.
- If no gloves are used when handling dirty laundry, be sure to wash hands immediately afterwards with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If possible, do not shake dirty laundry. This will minimize the possibility of dispersing virus through the air.
- Launder items as appropriate in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. If possible, launder items using the warmest appropriate water setting for the items and then dry the items completely. Dirty laundry from an ill person can be washed with other people's items.
- Clean and disinfect clothes hampers according to guidance above for surfaces. If possible, consider placing a bag liner that is either disposable (can be thrown away) or can also be laundered.

#### 2. Soiled linens or clothing

- Immediately remove and wash clothes or bedding that have blood, stool, or body fluids on them.
- Wear disposable gloves while handling soiled items and keep soiled items away from your body. Clean your hands (with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer) immediately after removing your gloves.
- Read and follow directions on labels of laundry or clothing items and detergent. In general, using a normal laundry detergent according to washing machine instructions and dry thoroughly using the warmest temperatures recommended on the clothing label.

- More on laundry, specifically for caregiver-type contact can be found in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) webpage titled “Preventing the Spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 in Homes and Residential Communities”
- At: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-prevent-spread.html>

## B. DISINFECTION/CLEANING COVID-19

It is recommended that health care isolation centers follow the CDC guidance for cleaning and disinfecting for COVID-19. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/cleaning-disinfection.html>

The CDC defines cleaning and disinfecting for household settings and general public as:

- **Cleaning** refers to the removal of germs, dirt, and impurities from surfaces. Cleaning does not kill germs, but by removing them, it lowers their numbers and the risk of spreading infection.
- **Disinfecting** refers to using chemicals to kill germs on surfaces. This process does not necessarily clean dirty surfaces or remove germs, but by killing germs on a surface *after* cleaning, it can further lower the risk of spreading infection.

## C. DISPOSAL OF WASTE AND TRASH

If an individual is healthy with no signs and symptoms, special considerations for handling trash are not necessary. Health care isolation centers should provide a dedicated trash can in each living quarter with a liner.

Cleaning staff should use gloves when removing garbage bags, handling, and disposing of trash. Immediately wash hands after disposal of trash and gloves. When necessary, local jurisdictions will provide county-specific guidance regarding trash disposal.

## D. FOOD SAFETY AND COVID-19

Ohio Department of Health (ODH) follows guidance in accordance with the CDC and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for information regarding food safety and the COVID-19. Additional information can be found here: <https://www.fda.gov/food/food-safety-during-emergencies/food-safety-and-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

Coronaviruses are generally thought to be spread from person-to-person through respiratory droplets. Currently, there is no evidence to support transmission of COVID-19 through food.

At this time the FDA is not aware of reports where human illness has suggested COVID-19 was transmitted through food or food packaging. However, washing and sanitizing of all food contact surfaces and utensils is advisable. In addition, it is always important to follow good hygiene practices (i.e., wash hands and surfaces often, separate raw meat from other foods, cook to the right temperature, and refrigerate foods promptly) when handling or preparing food.

## E. COVID-19 MEDICAL MONITORING & INFECTION CONTROL

Although most patients admitted to the health care isolation center come from hospitals as part of their post-acute care plan, some may be admitted from nursing facilities unable to manage the level of critical care required. Most clinically stable COVID patients will not be admitted from nursing facilities. Patients admitted to the health care isolation center will have a clinical severity score of 2-3 as determined by tools such as the NEWS score (Appendix 9).

#### F. RELEASING PATIENTS FROM COVID-19 HEALTHCARE ISOLATION CENTER

COVID testing is not required for releasing patients from health care isolation centers. Although the CDC has endorsed test-based and non-test based strategies for release from hospitals or health care isolation centers, recent ODH guidance strongly prefers non test based strategies.

These non-test-based criteria to establish the release from transmission-based precautions (isolation). Criteria include:

- 7 days since onset of symptoms AND
- 3 days with no fever without use of fever-reducing medication AND
- 3 days of stable and improved respiratory status.

In congregate living situations (such as nursing facilities) and with individuals who are hospitalized or severely immunocompromised, criteria for release from isolation criteria include:

- 14 days since onset of symptoms AND
- 3 days with no fever without fever-reducing medication AND
- 3 days of stable and improved respiratory status.

Ultimately, clinician judgement is required to determine release from transmission-based precautions. Treating clinicians may determine that a test-based strategy is necessary in very specific clinical situations.

The health care isolation centers are held to the same standard for discharge planning as hospitals. Discharge documentation should include date of onset of symptoms, isolation status, and need for continued transmission-based precautions, clearly establishing that the site of discharge placement has the ability to meet infection-control requirements. Airborne infection isolation rooms are not mandatory upon release.

## Appendix 2

# COVID-19 Focused Survey for Nursing Homes

### Infection Control

This survey tool must be used to investigate compliance at F880 and determine whether the facility is implementing proper infection prevention and control practices to prevent the development and transmission of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases and infections. Entry and screening procedures as well as resident care guidance has varied over the progression of COVID-19 transmission in facilities. Facilities are expected to be in compliance with CMS requirements and surveyors will use guidance that is in effect at the time of the survey. Refer to QSO memos released at: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/Policy-and-Memos-to-States-and-Regions>.

This survey tool provides a focused review of the critical elements associated with the transmission of COVID-19, will help surveyors to prioritize survey activities while onsite, and identify those survey activities which can be accomplished offsite. These efficiencies will decrease the potential for transmission of COVID-19, as well as lessen disruptions to the facility and minimize exposure of the surveyor. Surveyors should be mindful to ensure their activities do not interfere with the active treatment or prevention of transmission of COVID-19.

If citing for noncompliance related to COVID-19, the surveyor(s) must include the following language at the beginning of the Deficient Practice Statement or other place determined appropriate on the Form CMS-2567: “Based on [observations/interviews/record review], the facility failed to [properly prevent and/or contain – or other appropriate statement] **COVID-19.**”

If surveyors see concerns related to compliance with other requirements, they should investigate them in accordance with the existing guidance in Appendix PP of the State Operations Manual and related survey instructions. Surveyors may also need to consider investigating concerns related to Emergency Preparedness in accordance with the guidance in Appendix Z of the State Operations Manual (e.g., for emergency staffing).

For the purpose of this survey tool, “staff” includes employees, consultants, contractors, volunteers, and others who provide care and services to residents on behalf of the facility. The Infection Prevention and Control Program (IPCP) must be facility-wide and include all departments and contracted services.

#### Surveyor(s) reviews for:

- The overall effectiveness of the Infection Prevention and Control Program (IPCP) including IPCP policies and procedures;
- Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions;
- Quality of resident care practices, including those with COVID-19 (laboratory-positive case), if applicable;
- The surveillance plan;
- Visitor entry and facility screening practices;
- Education, monitoring, and screening practices of staff; and
- Facility policies and procedures to address staffing issues during emergencies, such as transmission of COVID-19

#### 1. Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions (TBPs)

CMS is aware that there is a scarcity of some supplies in certain areas of the country. State and Federal surveyors should not cite facilities for

## COVID-19 Focused Survey for Nursing Homes

not having certain supplies (e.g., PPE such as gowns, N95 respirators, surgical masks) if they are having difficulty obtaining these supplies for reasons outside of their control. However, we do expect facilities to take actions to mitigate any resource shortages and show they are taking all appropriate steps to obtain the necessary supplies as soon as possible. For example, if there is a shortage of PPE (e.g., due to supplier(s) shortage which may be a regional or national issue), the facility should contact their healthcare coalition for assistance (<https://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/planning/hpp/Pages/find-hc-coalition.aspx>), follow national and/or local guidelines for optimizing their current supply or identify the next best option to care for residents. Among other practices, optimizing their current supply may mean prioritizing use of gowns based on risk of exposure to infectious organisms, blood or body fluids, splashes or sprays, high contact procedures, or aerosol generating procedures (AGPs), as well as possibly extending use of PPE (follow national and/or local guidelines). Current CDC guidance for healthcare professionals is located at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/hcp/index.html> and healthcare facilities is located at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/healthcare-facilities/index.html>. Guidance on strategies for optimizing PPE supply is located at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/index.html>. If a surveyor believes a facility should be cited for not having or providing the necessary supplies, the State Agency should contact the CMS Regional Location.

### General Standard Precautions

- ☐ Are staff performing the following appropriately:
- Respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette,
  - Environmental cleaning and disinfection, and
  - Reprocessing of reusable resident medical equipment (e.g., cleaning and disinfection of glucometers per device and disinfectant manufacturer's instructions for use)?

### Hand Hygiene

- ☐ Are staff performing hand hygiene when indicated?
- ☐ If alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) is available, is it readily accessible and preferentially used by staff for hand hygiene?
- ☐ If there are shortages of ABHR, are staff performing hand hygiene using soap and water instead?
- ☐ Are staff washing hands with soap and water when their hands are visibly soiled (e.g., blood, body fluids)?
- ☐ Do staff perform hand hygiene (even if gloves are used) in the following situations:
- Before and after contact with the resident;
  - After contact with blood, body fluids, or visibly contaminated surfaces;
  - After contact with objects and surfaces in the resident's environment;
  - After removing personal protective equipment (e.g., gloves, gown, facemask); and
  - Before performing a procedure such as an aseptic task (e.g., insertion of an invasive device such as a urinary catheter, manipulation of a central venous catheter, and/or dressing care)?
- ☐ When being assisted by staff, is resident hand hygiene performed after toileting and before meals?

## COVID-19 Focused Survey for Nursing Homes

- ☐ Interview appropriate staff to determine if hand hygiene supplies (e.g., ABHR, soap, paper towels) are readily available and who they contact for replacement supplies.

### Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- ☐ Determine if staff appropriately use PPE including, but not limited to, the following:
- Gloves are worn if potential contact with blood or body fluid, mucous membranes, or non-intact skin;
  - Gloves are removed after contact with blood or body fluids, mucous membranes, or non-intact skin;
  - Gloves are changed and hand hygiene is performed before moving from a contaminated body site to a clean body site during resident care; and
  - An isolation gown is worn for direct resident contact if the resident has uncontained secretions or excretions.
- ☐ Is PPE appropriately removed and discarded after resident care, prior to leaving room (except in the case of extended use of PPE per national/local recommendations), followed by hand hygiene?
- ☐ If PPE use is extended/reused, is it done according to national and/or local guidelines? If it is reused, is it cleaned/decontaminated/maintained after and/or between uses?
- ☐ Interview appropriate staff to determine if PPE is available, accessible and used by staff.
- Are there sufficient PPE supplies available to follow infection prevention and control guidelines? In the event of PPE shortages, what procedures is the facility taking to address this issue?
  - Do staff know how to obtain PPE supplies before providing care?
  - Do they know who to contact for replacement supplies?

### Transmission-Based Precautions (Note: PPE use is based on availability and latest CDC guidance. See note on Pages 1-2)

- ☐ Determine if appropriate Transmission-Based Precautions are implemented:
- For a resident on Contact Precautions: staff don gloves and isolation gown before contact with the resident and/or his/her environment;
  - For a resident on Droplet Precautions: staff don a facemask within six feet of a resident;
  - For a resident on Airborne Precautions: staff don an N95 or higher level respirator prior to room entry of a resident;
  - For a resident with an undiagnosed respiratory infection: staff follow Standard, Contact, and Droplet Precautions (i.e., facemask, gloves, isolation gown) with eye protection when caring for a resident unless the suspected diagnosis requires Airborne Precautions (e.g., tuberculosis);
  - For a resident with known or suspected COVID-19: staff wear gloves, isolation gown, eye protection and an N95 or higher-level respirator if available. A facemask is an acceptable alternative if a respirator is not available. Additionally, if there are COVID-19 cases in the facility or sustained community transmission, staff implement universal use of facemasks while in the facility (based on availability). When COVID-19 is identified in the facility, staff wear all recommended PPE (i.e., gloves, gown, eye protection and respirator or facemask) for the care of all residents on the unit (or facility-wide based on the location of affected residents), regardless of symptoms (based on availability).

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- Some procedures performed on residents with known or suspected COVID-19 could generate infectious aerosols (i.e., aerosol-generating procedures (AGPs)). In particular, procedures that are likely to induce coughing (e.g., sputum induction, open suctioning of airways) should be performed cautiously. If performed, the following should occur:
  - Staff in the room should wear an N95 or higher-level respirator, eye protection, gloves, and an isolation gown.
  - The number of staff present during the procedure should be limited to only those essential for resident care and procedure support.
  - AGPs should ideally take place in an airborne infection isolation room (AIIR). If an AIIR is not available and the procedure is medically necessary, then it should take place in a private room with the door closed.
  - Clean and disinfect the room surfaces promptly and with appropriate disinfectant. Use disinfectants on List N of the EPA website for EPA-registered disinfectants that have qualified under EPA's emerging viral pathogens program for use against SARS-COV-2 or other national recommendations;
- Dedicated or disposable noncritical resident-care equipment (e.g., blood pressure cuffs, blood glucose monitor equipment) is used, or if not available, then equipment is cleaned and disinfected according to manufacturers' instructions using an EPA-registered disinfectant for healthcare setting prior to use on another resident;
- Objects and environmental surfaces that are touched frequently and in close proximity to the resident (e.g., bed rails, over-bed table, bedside commode, lavatory surfaces in resident bathrooms) are cleaned and disinfected with an EPA-registered disinfectant for healthcare setting (effective against the organism identified if known) at least daily and when visibly soiled; and
- Is signage on the use of specific PPE (for staff) posted in appropriate locations in the facility (e.g., outside of a resident's room, wing, or facility-wide)?

☐ Interview appropriate staff to determine if they are aware of processes/protocols for Transmission-Based Precautions and how staff is monitored for compliance.

☐ If concerns are identified, expand the sample to include more residents on Transmission-Based Precautions.

**1. Did staff implement appropriate Standard (e.g., hand hygiene, appropriate use of PPE, environmental cleaning and disinfection, and reprocessing of reusable resident medical equipment) and Transmission-Based Precautions (if applicable)?** ☐ Yes ☐ No **F880**

### 2. Resident Care

☐ If there is sustained community transmission or case(s) of COVID-19 in the facility, is the facility restricting residents (to the extent possible) to their rooms except for medically necessary purposes? If there is a case in the facility, and residents have to leave their room, are they wearing a facemask, performing hand hygiene, limiting their movement in the facility, and performing social distancing (efforts are made to keep them at least 6 feet away from others). If PPE shortage is an issue, facemasks should be limited to residents diagnosed with or having signs/symptoms of respiratory illness or COVID-19.

☐ Has the facility cancelled group outings, group activities, and communal dining?

## COVID-19 Focused Survey for Nursing Homes

- ☐ Has the facility isolated residents with known or suspected COVID-19 in a private room (if available), or taken other actions based on national (e.g., CDC), state, or local public health authority recommendations?
- ☐ For the resident who develops severe symptoms of illness and requires transfer to a hospital for a higher level of care, did the facility alert emergency medical services and the receiving facility of the resident's diagnosis (suspected or confirmed COVID-19) and precautions to be taken by transferring and receiving staff as well as place a facemask on the resident during transfer (as supply allows)?
- ☐ For residents who need to leave the facility for care (e.g. dialysis, etc.), did the facility notify the transportation and receiving health care team of the resident's suspected or confirmed COVID-19 status?
- ☐ Does the facility have residents who must leave the facility regularly for medically necessary purposes (e.g., residents receiving hemodialysis and chemotherapy) wear a facemask (if available) whenever they leave their room, including for procedures outside of the facility?

**2. Did staff provide appropriate resident care?** ☐ Yes ☐ No **F880**

### 3. IPCP Standards, Policies and Procedures

- ☐ Did the facility establish a facility-wide IPCP including standards, policies, and procedures that are current and based on national standards for undiagnosed respiratory illness and COVID-19?
- ☐ Does the facility's policies or procedures include when to notify local/state public health officials if there are clusters of respiratory illness or cases of COVID-19 that are identified or suspected?
- ☐ Concerns must be corroborated as applicable including the review of pertinent policies/procedures as necessary.

**3. Does the facility have a facility-wide IPCP including standards, policies, and procedures that are current and based on national standards for undiagnosed respiratory illness and COVID-19?** ☐ Yes ☐ No **F880**

### 4. Infection Surveillance

- ☐ How many residents and staff in the facility have fever, respiratory signs/symptoms, or other signs/symptoms related to COVID-19?
- ☐ How many residents and staff have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and when was the first case confirmed?
- ☐ How many residents and staff have been tested for COVID-19? What is the protocol for determining when residents and staff should be tested?
- ☐ Has the facility established/implemented a surveillance plan, based on a facility assessment, for identifying (i.e., screening), tracking, monitoring and/or reporting of fever (at a minimum, vital signs are taken per shift), respiratory illness, and/or other signs/symptoms of COVID-19 and immediately isolate anyone who is symptomatic?
- ☐ Does the plan include early detection, management of a potentially infectious, symptomatic resident that may require laboratory testing and/or Transmission-Based Precautions/PPE (the plan may include tracking this information in an infectious disease log)?

## COVID-19 Focused Survey for Nursing Homes

- ☐ Does the facility have a process for communicating the diagnosis, treatment, and laboratory test results when transferring a resident to an acute care hospital or other healthcare provider; and obtaining pertinent notes such as discharge summary, lab results, current diagnoses, and infection or multidrug-resistant organism colonization status when residents are transferred back from acute care hospitals?
- ☐ Can appropriate staff (e.g., nursing and unit managers) identify/describe the communication protocol with local/state public health officials?
- ☐ Interview appropriate staff to determine if infection control concerns are identified, reported, and acted upon.

**4. Did the facility provide appropriate infection surveillance?** ☐ Yes ☐ No **F880**

### 5. Visitor Entry

- ☐ Review for compliance of:
  - Screening processes and criteria (i.e., screening questions and assessment of illness);
  - Restriction criteria; and
  - Signage posted at facility entrances for screening and restrictions as well as a communication plan to alert visitors of new procedures/restrictions.
- ☐ For those permitted entry, are they instructed to frequently perform hand hygiene; limit their interactions with others in the facility and surfaces touched; restrict their visit to the resident's room or other location designated by the facility; and offered PPE (e.g., facemask) as supply allows? What is the facility's process for communicating this information?
- ☐ For those permitted entry, are they advised to monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and appropriate actions to take if signs and/or symptoms occur?

**5. Did the facility perform appropriate screening, restriction, and education of visitors?** ☐ Yes ☐ No **F880**

### 6. Education, Monitoring, and Screening of Staff

- ☐ Is there evidence the facility has provided education to staff on COVID-19 (e.g., symptoms, how it is transmitted, screening criteria, work exclusions)?
- ☐ How does the facility convey updates on COVID-19 to all staff?
- ☐ Is the facility screening all staff at the beginning of their shift for fever and signs/symptoms of illness? Is the facility actively taking their temperature and documenting absence of illness (or signs/symptoms of COVID-19 as more information becomes available)?
- ☐ If staff develop symptoms at work (as stated above), does the facility:
  - Place them in a facemask and have them return home;
  - Inform the facility's infection preventionist and include information on individuals, equipment, and locations the person came in contact with; and

## COVID-19 Focused Survey for Nursing Homes

- Follow current guidance about returning to work (e.g., local health department, CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/healthcare-facilities/hcp-return-work.html>).

**6. Did the facility provide appropriate education, monitoring, and screening of staff?** ☐ Yes ☐ No F880

### 7. Emergency Preparedness - Staffing in Emergencies

- ☐ Policy development: Does the facility have a policy and procedure for ensuring staffing to meet the needs of the residents when needed during an emergency, such as a COVID-19 outbreak?
- ☐ Policy implementation: In an emergency, did the facility implement its planned strategy for ensuring staffing to meet the needs of the residents? (N/A if a emergency staff was not needed)

**7. Did the facility develop and implement policies and procedures for staffing strategies during an emergency?**

☐ Yes ☐ No E0024

*Section 3087 of the 21st Century Cures Act, signed into law in December 2016, added subsection (f) to section 319 of the Public Health Service Act. This new subsection gives the HHS Secretary the authority to waive Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) (44 USC 3501 et seq.) requirements with respect to voluntary collection of information during a public health emergency (PHE), as declared by the Secretary, or when a disease or disorder is significantly likely to become a public health emergency (SLPHE). Under this new authority, the HHS Secretary may waive PRA requirements for the voluntary collection of information if the Secretary determines that: (1) a PHE exists according to section 319(a) of the PHS Act or determines that a disease or disorder, including a novel and emerging public health threat, is a SLPHE under section 319(f) of the PHS Act; and (2) the PHE/SLPHE, including the specific preparation for and response to it, necessitates a waiver of the PRA requirements. The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) has been designated as the office that will coordinate the process for the Secretary to approve or reject each request.*

*The information collection requirements contained in this information collection request have been submitted and approved under a PRA Waiver granted by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. The waiver can be viewed at <https://aspe.hhs.gov/public-health-emergency-declaration-pra-waivers>.*

## PRE-SURGE PLANNING



# Coronavirus Disease 2019

## How to Request Resources Through Your County EMA

### RESOURCE REQUESTS BEGIN AT THE COUNTY LEVEL

The emergency management system in Ohio is a tiered effort. When a local government or health care facility needs additional resources or supplies to deal with an emergency, a request for resources should be placed with the respective county Emergency Management Agency (EMA), who will attempt to find resources at the local or regional level.

When an emergency exceeds the capacity of the local government, the county EMA will make a request to the state through the Ohio Emergency Management Agency (Ohio EMA). If an emergency exceeds the capacity of the state, aid is requested by Ohio EMA through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

When making a request to the county EMA, specificity about the situation at hand is of paramount importance – details matter.

When reaching out to your county EMA, be prepared with the following information:

- Details about the incident/situation
- The gap between existing resources and what is needed to handle the incident/situation
- Details about how you have tried to fill that gap locally (asked for volunteers; reached out to the local business community, attempts to purchase goods, etc.)

FIND YOUR COUNTY EMA HERE: [https://webeoctraining.dps.ohio.gov/ohiocountyEMADirectorList/countyemalist\\_web.aspx](https://webeoctraining.dps.ohio.gov/ohiocountyEMADirectorList/countyemalist_web.aspx)

To learn more about the emergency management system in Ohio, check out the Ohio Elected Officials Guide To Emergency Management: at [www.ema.ohio.gov](http://www.ema.ohio.gov) under the heading, “Are You Ready Ohio?”

For additional information, visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://coronavirus.ohio.gov).

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

If you or a loved one are experiencing anxiety related to the coronavirus pandemic, help is available. Call the Disaster Distress Helpline at 1-800-985-5990 (1-800-846-8517 TTY); connect with a trained counselor through the Ohio Crisis Text Line by texting the keyword “4HOPE” to 741 741; or call the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services help line at 1-877-275-6364 to find resources in your community.

For more information, visit: [coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://coronavirus.ohio.gov)

# CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 **Ohio**

Department  
of Health

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](https://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

For more information, visit: [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov)

## Appendix 5: Regional Hospital Zones (map)

### PRE-SURGE PLANNING

### Ohio COVID-19 Health Care Delivery System: Three Zone Approach



#### Zone 1: Cleveland Lead

- Region 1
- Region 2
- Region 5

#### Zone 2: Columbus Lead





- Region 4
- Region 7
- Region 8

#### Zone 3: Cincinnati Lead

- Region 3
- Region 6

DRAFT: 3-31-20

Appendix 6: PPE Guidance

<b>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</b>			
This toolkit includes guidance, strategies, and options to optimize supplies of PPE while minimizing the spread of COVID-19 and protecting health care personnel and other staff. Optimizing the use of PPE is critical during this phase of “pre-surge planning” as we prepare for an increase in the number of people who are COVID-19 positive (+).			
PPE TYPE	CONVENTIONAL CAPACITY	CONTINGENCY CAPACITY	CRISIS CAPACITY
<div>MASK</div> <div>EYE PROTECTION</div> <div>GOWN</div> <div>GLOVES</div>	Under normal circumstances, provide patient care using infection prevention and control without any change in daily practices. PPE should be used according to product labeling and local, state, and federal requirements.	During periods of expected PPE shortages, take action to change daily standard practices (cancel elective and non-urgent procedures) to reduce the use of PPE. Shift PPE supplies from disposable to re-usable, implement extended wear, and ensure appropriate cleaning and disinfection.	During periods of known PPE shortages, use additional conservation measures, including PPE use that does not correspond with U.S. standards of care. In addition to the contingency strategies (extended use and re-use), also use PPE beyond the manufacturer-designated shelf life, prioritize the use of PPE for selected activities, and use alternative items that have not been evaluated as effective.

# Coronavirus Disease 2019

## Guidance for Discontinuing Transmission-Based Precautions in COVID-19 Patients

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has endorsed both test-based and non-test-based strategies for release from transmission-based precautions for individuals treated for COVID-19, including both those who have tested positive and those suspected of having COVID-19 who have not been tested.

While in certain situations a test-based approach is ideal, due to the limited availability of testing and need to preserve testing capacity to identify newly infected patients who are at highest risk, hospitals, other healthcare facilities, and clinicians should almost always use the non-test-based strategies for discontinuation of transmission-based precautions.

After consultation with Ohio infectious disease physicians and the CDC, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) recommends the following:

- Utilize the CDC non-test-based criteria to establish the release from transmission-based precautions (isolation). These criteria include:
  - 7 days since onset of symptoms AND
  - 3 days with no fever without use of fever-reducing medication AND
  - 3 days of stable and improved respiratory status.
- In congregate living situations (such as nursing facilities) and with individuals who are hospitalized or severely immunocompromised, criteria for release from isolation criteria include:
  - 14 days since onset of symptoms AND
  - 3 days with no fever without fever-reducing medication AND
  - 3 days of stable and improved respiratory status.
- Ultimately, clinician judgment is required to determine release from transmission-based precautions. Treating clinicians may determine that a test-based strategy is necessary in very specific clinical situations.
- For patients being released from hospitals, discharge planning and discharge documentation should include date of onset of symptoms, isolation status, and need for continued transmission-based precautions, clearly establishing that the receiving facility has the ability to meet infection-control requirements.

## For patients transferred to nursing facilities and congregate care settings:

- For those facilities that do not have the ability to meet full isolation requirements, the following CDC and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance should be used:
  - Residents with known or suspected COVID-19 do not need to be placed in an airborne infection isolation room (AIIR) but should ideally be placed in a private room with their own bathroom.
  - Room sharing might be necessary if there are multiple residents with known or suspected COVID-19 in the facility. Confirmed positive and presumed positive residents may share rooms. Those exposed but not symptomatic shall be quarantined in a separate room/area.
- Facilities should consider a targeted approach, where designated wings/units, floors, or entire facilities are created for COVID-19 or suspected patients. Facilities should consider designating Health Care Personnel (HCP) who are assigned ONLY to those units to care for known or suspected COVID-19 patients to limit HCP exposure and conserve Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). These units are ideal for residents returning from hospital care who still need to complete the isolation period before being released into the general population of nursing facility residents.
- Nursing homes should admit any individuals that they would normally admit to their facility, including individuals without symptoms of COVID-19 previously in the community, in hospitals, or in other facilities where a case of COVID-19 may have been present. *No further testing is required for these asymptomatic and potentially exposed individuals.* These residents should be quarantined and monitored for 14 days and standard infection control practices including diligent handwashing and staff wearing surgical masks or other face covering utilized. If possible, a dedicated unit/wing for these residents could be established.
- Facilities should notify the health department about residents and staff with known or suspected COVID-19 and follow the [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with COVID-19 or Persons Under Investigation for COVID-19 in Healthcare Settings](#), including information regarding recommended PPE.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Relative to PPE, see also “Strategies to Optimize the Supply of PPE and Equipment,” <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/index.html>.

For additional information, visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov).

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

If you or a loved one are experiencing anxiety related to the coronavirus pandemic, help is available. Call the Disaster Distress Helpline at 1-800-985-5990 (1-800-846-8517 TTY); connect with a trained counselor through the Ohio Crisis Text Line by texting the keyword "4HOPE" to 741 741; or call the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services help line at 1-877-275-6364 to find resources in your community.

# CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 **Ohio**

Department  
of Health

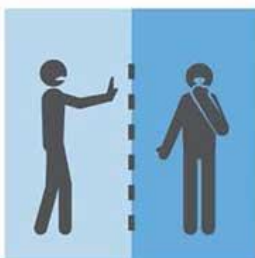
Protect yourself and others from  
COVID-19 by taking these precautions.

## PREVENTION

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SOCIAL  
DISTANCING



GET ADEQUATE SLEEP  
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WASH HANDS OFTEN  
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( 20 SECONDS  
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DRY HANDS WITH  
A CLEAN TOWEL  
OR AIR DRY  
YOUR HANDS



COVER YOUR MOUTH  
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AVOID TOUCHING  
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## Appendix 8: Isolation Center Process for Facilities

As part of Ohio's effort to address needed surge capacity in the continuing efforts for COVID-19, health care isolation centers are established in accordance with the Novel Coronavirus-19 (COVID-19) Health care Isolation Center Plan.

At this time, the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Department of Medicaid require the following information for temporary Isolation Center locations:

- Identifying Information:
  - Facility making request by name, address, city, zip code, county, and telephone number.
  - Facility CCN
  - Facility License Number (if applicable)
  - Corporate Affiliate name (if applicable)
  - Address, city, zip code, county of the new location. Name if different than the current location.
  - Identify if it's previously certified and/or licensed space and the last year in which the facility held certification and/or licensure.
  - Current Administrator
- The number of certified beds proposed for service at the isolation location.
- An attestation from the individual indicating that the isolation center:
  - Can meet the certification requirements
  - Has the requisite financial ability to operate
  - Has the ability to properly staff the isolation center
  - Meets the requirements outlined in Novel Coronavirus-19 (COVID-19) Health care Isolation Centers Plan.
  - Acknowledgment that the certified beds are temporary and will cease to exist when the facility no longer operates as a health care isolation center
- If the isolation center is going to be located within a current NH facility that houses non-COVID-19 residents, the Isolation Center will:
  - Be a separate and discrete part of the building (e.g., a wing or floor)
  - Have a separate entrance, if appropriate
  - Have segregated, isolation center-only staff

Please send to the hospital registration email at [liccert@odh.ohio.gov](mailto:liccert@odh.ohio.gov) and please cc [james.hodge@odh.ohio.gov](mailto:james.hodge@odh.ohio.gov)

Once the notification (or application) is received, ODH will work with ODM to process and will notify the applicant.. At that point, we will finish processing and move to survey, if required. Only health care isolation centers that are working within the public health hospital zone in coordination with the regional plan will be considered.

## Appendix 9: NEWS 2 Scoring Matrix

NEWS score	Frequency of monitoring	Clinical response
0	Minimum 12 hourly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue routine NEWS monitoring</li> </ul>
Total 1–4	Minimum 4–6 hourly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inform registered nurse, who must assess the patient</li> <li>Registered nurse decides whether increased frequency of monitoring and/or escalation of care is required</li> </ul>
3 in single parameter	Minimum 1 hourly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registered nurse to inform medical team caring for the patient, who will review and decide whether escalation of care is necessary</li> </ul>
Total 5 or more Urgent response threshold	Minimum 1 hourly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registered nurse to immediately inform the medical team caring for the patient</li> <li>Registered nurse to request urgent assessment by a clinician or team with core competencies in the care of acutely ill patients</li> <li>Provide clinical care in an environment with monitoring facilities</li> </ul>
Total 7 or more Emergency response threshold	Continuous monitoring of vital signs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registered nurse to immediately inform the medical team caring for the patient – this should be at least at specialist registrar level</li> <li>Emergency assessment by a team with critical care competencies, including practitioner(s) with advanced airway management skills</li> <li>Consider transfer of care to a level 2 or 3 clinical care facility, ie higher-dependency unit or ICU</li> <li>Clinical care in an environment with monitoring facilities</li> </ul>

## Appendix 10 -TOOL 6-A: Patient/Resident Transfer to Health Care Isolation Center Checklist

### Clinical Criteria for Transferring Patients/Residents to Health Care Isolation Centers (HCIC) During Pandemic

This checklist is intended to assist with communications when transferring COVID-19 residents to a health care isolation center (HCIC). It serves as an easy reference guide, ensuring details of care have been accurately relayed. It does not replace or supersede existing clinical or facility protocols. Please check all that apply.

KEY CRITERIA FOR TRANSFER OF COVID-19 RESIDENT	
<input type="checkbox"/>	COVID-19+ status <input type="checkbox"/> Confirmed (tested positive) <input type="checkbox"/> Probable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Advanced directive exists, designates desire for level of care at HCIC
<input type="checkbox"/>	Patient is level 2 or 3 severity or NEWS score over 5. If level 2, detail the reason for transfer below (note: clinically stable COVID-19 + patients/residents are not candidates for admission to an HCIC) <hr/> <hr/>
VITALS	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Temp (F) < 95° or > 100°
<input type="checkbox"/>	SBP (mmHg) < 90 or > 180
<input type="checkbox"/>	HR (per/min) < 50 or > 110
<input type="checkbox"/>	RR (per/min) < 14 or > 22
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pulse ox % _____ on _____ %FIO2, or ____ L/nc
<input type="checkbox"/>	Unable to maintain O2 sat > 90% on 40% FiO2
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vital Signs Change of >25% of baseline
ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR HOSPITAL LEVEL OF CARE	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dyspnea cannot be managed despite medications and oxygen
<input type="checkbox"/>	Evidence of organ dysfunction (angina, kidney failure)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other
OTHER CLINICAL INFORMATION	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Patient Medical ID/wristband
<input type="checkbox"/>	Diagnoses
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medications

<input type="checkbox"/>	Allergies
<b>COMMUNICATIONS</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	NF or other congregate care facility communicates with family
<input type="checkbox"/>	Before transport, NF or other congregate care provider communicates with HCIC partner to verify appropriate care available. The HCIC confirms they have <u>all</u> of the following on-site to appropriately care for the individual being transferred
	<input type="checkbox"/> Medications
	<input type="checkbox"/> Personnel
	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Note any special circumstances that must be communicated to the HCIC that may impact the facility's decision for admittance. For example: individual is an inmate of a prison, individual is also in recovery from a substance use disorder, etc.: <hr/> <hr/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Communicate with emergency medical services regarding COVID-19 status
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensure patient is wearing medical facemask for transport

## Appendix 11 - TOOL 7-A: Health Care Isolation Center Discharge Criteria Checklist to Facility/Home

The health care isolation center (HCIC) discharge of an individual with COVID-19 to home or long-term services facility should be made in consultation with the individual's clinical care team, and local or state public health departments, as appropriate.

This checklist is intended to assist with communications when discharging COVID-19 residents from a HCIC. It serves as an easy reference guide, ensuring details of care have been accurately relayed. It does not replace or supersede existing clinical or facility protocols. Please check all that apply.

VERIFY RESIDENT CONTACT INFORMATION	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Obtain and verify residence and patient's ability to return to residence
<input type="checkbox"/>	Verify contact number for patient as well primary support person
VERIFY STABILIZATION OF CLINICAL CONDITION	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vital signs stable
<input type="checkbox"/>	Temp 96-100
<input type="checkbox"/>	SBP 90-160
<input type="checkbox"/>	HR 60-100
<input type="checkbox"/>	RR 14-22
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pulse O <sub>2</sub> >92% on RA for oxygen naïve patients; otherwise O <sub>2</sub> , 4L/nc
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental status stable or at baseline >24 hours
<input type="checkbox"/>	Confirm with medical provider and bedside RN that patient is able to manage ADLs independently or with degree of available support at home/facility
<input type="checkbox"/>	Verify lab values stable and any lab follow up: Test _____ Date _____
STATUS OF COVID-19 TESTING	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Date of onset of symptoms _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Date of initial positive test (if done) _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	If discharging to a non-congregate care setting (home or other), if no repeat COVID-19 testing, date patient met all of the following criteria _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 7 days since symptom onset <input type="checkbox"/> 3 days of no fever without antipyretics <input type="checkbox"/> 3 days of stable respiratory status
<input type="checkbox"/>	If discharging to a nursing facility or other congregate care setting date patient met all of the following criteria _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 14 days since symptom onset <input type="checkbox"/> 3 days of no fever without antipyretics <input type="checkbox"/> 3 days of stable and improved respiratory status
FOR NON-COVID-19 PATIENTS - INFECTION CONTROL	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Has the patient been in contact with anyone positive for COVID-19?
<input type="checkbox"/>	If yes, date(s) of exposure _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	Communicate with patient and care partners: COVID status, isolation and PPE requirements

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<input type="checkbox"/>	Confirm Patient has resources/supports to adhere to infection control requirements <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-prevent-spread.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/guidance-prevent-spread.html</a>
<b>CONFIRM NEEDED EQUIPMENT</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Oxygen
<input type="checkbox"/>	DME
<input type="checkbox"/>	Additional nursing services
<b>MEDICATIONS</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Review medication list
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ensure a 30-day supply of each medication
<b>CLINICIAN FOLLOW-UP</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Verify date and time of specialist follow up
<input type="checkbox"/>	Verify date and time of primary care follow up
<b>DISCHARGE LOGISTICS</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Patient transportation arranged
<input type="checkbox"/>	Patient dietary needs addressed (special food, supplements, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Patient communications device available and accessible, as applicable

**Commented [WM1]:** What nursing services might be needed to discharge home? What questions should be on the checklist to address this need?