



Indiana
Department
of
Health

Long-term Care **NEWSLETTER**

LTC Newsletter 2020-71
November 19, 2020

Long-term Care Update:

- Visitation Guidelines for Long-term Care Facilities- Update
- COVID-19 Contact Tracking Team Request
- PPE Shipment for Assisted Living/Residential Facilities
- Updated - Infection Prevention FAQs for LTC

Visitation Guidelines for Long-term Care Facilities – Update

On 11/13/2020 an update was made to the [Visitation Guidelines for Long-term Care Facilities](#). This update was due to widespread community outbreaks of COVID-19. The State Department of Health strongly recommends against residents leaving facilities for excursions, funerals and weddings at this time. Individuals who leave the facility for these types of visits should be placed in quarantine for 14 days when returning. These recommendations do not apply to residents who in the last 90 days have been diagnosed with and recovered from COVID-19 or who live in private residences. Such individuals, however, must meet CDC criteria for discontinuing transmission-based precautions.

COVID-19 Contact Tracing Team Request

Please answer the call! If you receive a call from 833-670-0067, it is from the COVID-19 call center and is not spam or a fraudulent call. Interviews from the call center might

duplicate work that your facility is already doing, but that does not mean that the information has been received by the Indiana Department of Health or that residents' close contacts have been notified, referred to testing or monitored.

It is vital to the Indiana Department of Health's COVID-19 response that your facility and its residents participate in the COVID-19 interview and contact tracing through our official system to ensure you have the most up-to-date information, and so your information is properly recorded in our system and to help limit the spread. More information on contact tracing is available at [answerthecall.in.gov](https://www.in.gov/answerthecall).

PPE Shipment for Assisted Living/Residential Facilities

As part of the State's ongoing efforts to support long-term care facilities through the COVID-19 pandemic, we are planning a one-time shipment of PPE to assisted living/residential facilities. To receive this shipment the state needs the following [survey](#) to be filled out by November 25th. If your facility is a member of one of the three long-term care associations your information may have already been submitted (please confirm with your association). If you are not a member of an association, the facility administrator must fill out the survey. Please submit only one survey per facility. In addition to receiving PPE, if your facility has a CLIA waiver you will be receiving a shipment of point-of-care BinaxNOW™ cards. These are to facilitate outbreak testing in your facilities. Facilities with memory care units are expected to perform outbreak testing in these units using the same [CDC guidance](#) followed by skilled nursing facilities:

- An outbreak is when a single case of COVID-19 occurs in a memory care staff or resident
- In an outbreak all memory care residents are to be tested for COVID-19
- Residents who test positive should be [cohorted](#) into COVID-19 areas of the facility
- Residents who test negative should undergo repeat testing every 3 to 7 days, until the testing identifies no new cases of SARS-CoV-2 infection among residents or memory care staff for a period of at least 14 days since the most recent positive result.

In addition, to receive PPE facilities must have an active disclosure for housing with services establishment form on file with the FSSA division off aging. If your form has expired you can update it [here](#).

Updated – Infection Prevention FAQs for LTC

[Infection Prevention FAQs for Long Term Care](#) facilities has been updated with information on contact tracing in long-term care, assisted living and independent living AND transmission-based precaution questions on barrier walls (zip walls) and doors AND environmental controls. Any questions can be emailed to jspivey1@isdh.in.gov.