



Indiana State
Department of Health

LONG TERM CARE NEWSLETTER

ISDH Long Term Care Newsletter

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Long Term Care Update

Deputy Director Division of Long Term Care -- Tammy Alley

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH), Division of Long Term Care is pleased to announce the appointing of Tammy Alley, R.N. as Deputy Director of Long Term Care effective July 29, 2019. Tammy started her nursing career in 1986 as a CNA and QMA. She worked in these positions in long term care until she graduated from Ball State University. As an R.N. she continued in long term care as a staff nurse, unit manager, MDS coordinator, ADON and DON. Her focus has been on education and equipping individuals with the knowledge, skills and tools needed to perform to their highest level. Tammy has a passion for long term care, which comes from the relationship with her grandparents, who she cared for in her home. In 2005 Tammy joined the ISDH as a public health nurse surveyor and in 2013 became a public health nurse supervisor for Area 5.

Tammy has been married for 28 years with the past 18 years being a pastor's wife. She serves on church and state boards for their church, and is also the ministry leader in the Celebrate Recovery Program. Her family also includes a 22 year old married son and 19 year old daughter, who is pursuing a nursing career. Please join in welcoming Tammy to her new position.

Indiana Medicaid Non-Emergency Medical Transportation

In 2018, the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) initiated a different

approach to coordinating non-emergency medical transportation for Traditional Medicaid members. FSSA hired a transportation broker, Southeastrans, to arrange and coordinate transportation for these members through a network of independent, credentialed Medicaid transportation providers.

[Indiana Medicaid Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Overview](#) provides helpful information and tips to assist providers and Medicaid members when using this transportation benefits.

Sister Barbara Ann Zeller

Sister Barbara Ann founded a multi-faceted campus that serves peoples' real and complex needs in Georgetown, IN where she served for 25 years to provide a welcoming home for the elderly and families in need. Her mission continued to grow with the opening of the Guerin Woods campus. This facility included independent living, assisted living, a full-care nursing home and a memory care villa. Guerin Woods was the first "small house" concept facility for long term care residents in Indiana. Sister Barbara Ann was a woman who saw needs and worked with tenacity and determination to meet them. She was motivated by a deep compassion for the persons whose lives were affected by lack of services. Sister Barbara Ann, who devoted her life to serving others, died on August 1, 2019 in Georgetown, IN.

Infection Control Information

Enhanced Barrier Precautions

Implementation of contact precautions, as described in the CDC [Guideline for Isolation Precautions](#), is perceived to create challenges for nursing homes trying to balance the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and room restriction to prevent Multidrug-resistant Organisms (MDROs) transmission with residents' quality of life. Current practice in many nursing homes is to implement contact precautions only when residents are infected with an MDRO and on treatment. Focusing only on residents with active infection fails to address the continued risk of transmission from residents with MDRO colonization, which can persist for long periods of time, and result in the spread of MDROs. There is evidence that current contact precautions in nursing homes is not adequate to prevent MDRO transmission. To prevent the transmission of novel or targeted MDROs the CDC has introduced a new approach called [Enhanced Barrier Precautions](#). Enhanced Barrier Precautions falls between standard and contact precautions and requires gown and glove use for certain residents during specific high-contact resident care activities that have been found to increase risk of MDRO transmission. Enhanced Barrier Precautions requires the use of gown and gloves during high-contact resident care activities including dressing, bathing/showering, transferring, providing hygiene, changing linens, changing briefs or assisting with toileting, device care (central line, urinary catheter, feeding tube, tracheostomy/ventilator) and wound care to any skin opening requiring a dressing.

Additional resources:

- [Containment Response](#)
- [Core Infection Prevention and Control Practices for Safe Healthcare Delivery in all Settings](#)
- [Enhanced Barrier Precautions-Example Signs](#)

Candida auris – Update Information

Candida auris (*C. auris*) is a yeast that is causing serious infections and death across the country in hospitals, post-acute care facilities and now nursing homes. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) indicates that residents colonized or infected with *C. auris* can be associated with skilled nursing facilities for ventilated residents or long term acute care hospitals. As of July 2019, *C. auris* is defined as a novel or targeted MDRO. Nursing home staff need to be aware of the importance of reporting and managing this organism appropriately.

Jennifer Spivey, Infection Preventionist with the Indiana State Department of Health, Epidemiology Resource Center has developed "[What about this drug-resistant yeast *Candida auris*?](#)". This article contains information regarding *C. auris* including reporting, prevention measures, resources and contact information.

2018 Antibiotic Use in the United States

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released [Antibiotic Use in the United States: Progress and Opportunities, 2018 Update](#). This is an update to the CDC's 2017 antibiotic stewardship report. Improving antibiotic use is important to effectively treat infections, protect individuals from harms caused by unnecessary antibiotic use, and combat antibiotic resistance, one of the most urgent threats to the public's health. Progress has been made in improving antibiotic prescribing and use, but many opportunities remain.