



Indiana
Department
of
Health

Long-term Care NEWSLETTER

LTC Newsletter 2022-27

July 8, 2022

LTC Update:

- **Informal Dispute Resolution (IDR) Update**
- **Nurse Aide in Training Registry – NEW**
- **Guidelines for Using the Therapy Gym for Residents Who Are Still in New Admission Quarantine**
- **QSO-22-19-NH**

Informal Dispute Resolution (IDR) Update

Prior to the pandemic, long-term care facilities were able to present information concerning their Informal Dispute Resolution (IDR) requests to the IDR reviewers in face-to-face conferences. That option was changed to virtual/video conferences during the pandemic. Effective immediately, facilities can request all three options in the gateway: face-to-face, video and desk/paper reviews.

Below is a sample screenshot of what providers will see in the gateway.

Informal dispute resolutions:

- An IDR has been requested for the following tag(s): **0092**
- Before continuing, please ensure that the reason for an IDR as been written in the response to each tag citation being disputed
- Please select the IDR type below that describes the action to be taken for the IDR.

Select the type of IDR below

ISDH Video Meeting review

ISDH Desk/Paper Review

Face to face Review

To help prevent confusion, please be specific in the text of your plan of correction (POC) regarding each citation you would like reviewed and which type of IDR review you are requesting.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind providers to redact any personal identifying information, such as name, date of birth, Social Security numbers, etc., for residents and staff when emailing documents to support the IDR request. You may contact Linda Kay at LKay@health.in.gov with any question related to IDR.

Nurse Aide in Training Registry – NEW

A REDCap Nurse Aide in Training Registry has been created to provide a record of nurse aides in training in nursing facilities in Indiana. This will allow IDOH to monitor capacity related to training, testing and certification of nurse aides.

Effective immediately, nursing facilities should complete the survey for any nurse aides hired who are not yet certified. This would include former PCAs and TNAs who did not complete their nurse aide training prior to July 1 but who are enrolled in a nurse aide training program with the intention of completing the training, testing and certification.

The REDCap Nurse Aide in Training Registry may be accessed with the following link:
<https://redcap.isdh.in.gov/surveys/?s=CMWRXH9J4C>

Any questions may be directed to Suzanne Williams at suwilliams@isdh.in.gov.

Guidelines for Using the Therapy Gym for Residents Who Are Still in New Admission Quarantine

- Everyone in the gym should observe core principles of infection control: Hand hygiene, social distancing, limiting the number of residents based on the size of the gym and the use of proper PPE by residents and staff.
- Keep in mind that COVID-19 positive residents in TBP should remain in their rooms for therapy unless there is a medical need to be in the gym.
- Terminal cleaning should be performed by environmental services (EVS) after the room is set for a minimum of one hour after any COVID-19 positive resident has been in the gym.

Below are the steps to take for new admissions who are admitted for rehabilitation post-acute care:

- **Scheduling process**
 - Residents not in TBP should receive therapy first (Green).
 - Then asymptomatic residents who are in TBP (Yellow).

- Then COVID-19 positive asymptomatic residents (Red).
- Consider doing therapy in the resident's room (instead of the therapy gym) for the **first five days** of infection if a resident has a cough and/or active symptoms of COVID-19. (Red or Yellow):
 - Consult with a clinician if therapy in the gym can be delayed.
- **Room cleaning/ ventilation practices**
 - Disinfect therapy care areas after each resident:
 - Disinfect the therapy gym/room after it is used for any resident in TBP.
 - Allow the therapy gym to sit for one hour (or more, based on LTC policy) prior to terminal cleaning by EVS.
 - This is after the COVID-19 positive resident leaves the area
 - EVS should wear full PPE: N 95, eye protection, gown and gloves.
- **Scheduling additional residents not in TBP: Post -terminal cleaning on the same day**
 - EVS should perform terminal cleaning of all surfaces after the last COVID-19 positive resident leaves the gym.
 - The gym may be opened up to residents not in TBP after proper terminal cleaning and allowing for wet-to-dry contact time for disinfection.
- **Resources**
 - [CDC Interim Guidance for Nursing Homes- Environmental Control](#)
Once the patient has been discharged or transferred, HCP, including environmental services personnel, should refrain from entering the vacated room until sufficient time has elapsed for enough air changes to remove potentially infectious particles (more information, including important footnotes on its application, on clearance rates under differing ventilation conditions is available). After this time has elapsed, the room should undergo appropriate cleaning and surface disinfection before it is returned to routine use.
 - [CDC Room air exchange ventilation guidance](#)

QSO-22-19-NH

On June 29, 2022, CMS issued [QSO-22-19-NH](#) with revised long-term care surveyor guidance, including revisions for phases 2 and 3, arbitration agreement requirements, investigating complaints and facility-reported incidents and the psychosocial outcome severity guide. Please see the [fact sheet](#) for an overview and summary of the significant changes.