### STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Renée D. Coleman-Mitchell, MPH Commissioner



Ned Lamont Governor Susan Bysiewicz Lt. Governor

### HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

**BLAST FAX 2020-19** 

TO:

All Facilities

FROM:

Commissioner Renée D. Coleman-Mitchell, MPH

CC:

Deputy Commissioner Heather Aaron, MPH, LNHA

Barbara Cass, RN., Branch Chief, Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch Donna Ortelle, Section Chief, Facility Licensing and Investigations Section

DATE:

March 24, 2020

SUBJECT:

Guidance from CMS regarding Prioritization of Survey Activities

All Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) attachments are specific to COVID-19, they are:

- 1. QSO-20-20 ALL,
- 2. Summary of the COVID-19 Focused Survey for Nursing Homes,
- 3. Summary of the COVID-19 Focused Survey for Acute and Continuing Care Providers,
- 4. COVID-19 Focused Survey for Nursing Homes,
- 5. COVID-19 Focused Infection Control Survey: Acute and Continuing Care.



Phone: (860) 509-7400 Fax: (860) 509-7543 Telecommunications Relay Service 7-1-1 410 Capitol Avenue, P.O. Box 340308 Hartford, Connecticut 06134-0308 www.ct.gov/dph Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer



		£¢.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services 7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop C2-21-16 Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



### Center for Clinical Standards and Quality/Quality, Safety & Oversight Group

Ref: QSO-20-20-All

DATE:

March 20, 2020

TO:

State Survey Agency Directors

FROM:

Director

Quality, Safety & Oversight Group

SUBJECT:

Prioritization of Survey Activities

### Memorandum Summary

 The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is committed to taking critical steps to ensure America's health care facilities are prepared to respond to the threat of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).

 On Friday, March 13, 2020, the President declared a national emergency, which triggers the Secretary's ability to authorize waivers or modifications of certain requirements pursuant to section 1135 of the Social Security Act (the Act). Under section 1135(b)(5) of the Act, CMS is prioritizing surveys by authorizing modification of timetables and deadlines for the performance of certain required activities, delaying revisit surveys, and generally exercising enforcement discretion for three weeks.

 During this three-week timeframe, <u>only</u> the following types of surveys will be prioritized and conducted:

<u>Complaint/facility-reported incident surveys</u>: State survey agencies (SSAs) will
conduct surveys related to complaints and facility-reported incidents (FRIs) that are
triaged at the Immediate Jeopardy (IJ) level. A streamlined Infection Control review
tool will also be utilized during these surveys, regardless of the Immediate Jeopardy
allegation.

• Targeted Infection Control Surveys: Federal CMS and State surveyors will conduct targeted Infection Control surveys of providers identified through collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the HHS Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR). They will use a streamlined review checklist to minimize the impact on provider activities, while ensuring providers are implementing actions to protect the health and safety of individuals to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

• <u>Self-assessments</u>: The Infection Control checklist referenced above will also be shared with all providers and suppliers to allow for self-assessment and attestation of their Infection Control plan and protections.

### Memorandum Summary Continued

- During the prioritization period, the following surveys will <u>not</u> be authorized: Standard surveys for long term care facilities (nursing homes), hospitals, home health agencies (HHAs), intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities (ICF/IIDs), and hospices. This includes the life safety code and Emergency Preparedness elements of those standard surveys; and revisits that are not associated with IJ.
- Furthermore, for Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA), we intend to
  prioritize immediate jeopardy situations over recertification surveys, and generally
  intend to use enforcement discretion, unless immediate jeopardy situations arise.
- Finally, initial certification surveys will continue to be authorized in accordance within current guidance and prioritization.

### Background

CMS is committed to taking critical steps to ensure America's health care facilities, providers, and clinical laboratories are prepared to respond to the threat of the COVID-19 and other respiratory illness. Specifically, under section 1135(b)(5) of the Act, CMS is prioritizing and suspending certain federal and SSA surveys, and delaying revisit surveys, pursuant to federal requirements for the next three weeks, beginning March 20, 2020, for all certified provider and supplier types. Also, for Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA), we intend to prioritize immediate jeopardy situations over recertification surveys, and generally intend to use enforcement discretion, unless immediate jeopardy situations arise. During this three-week timeframe, SSAs and CMS surveyors will prioritize and conduct surveys (including revisit surveys) related to complaints and facility-reported incidents (FRIs) that are triaged at the Immediate Jeopardy (IJ) level, for all allegations, in addition to a review with a Focused Infection Control survey. Federal surveyors will perform targeted Infection Control surveys of facilities in those areas most in need of additional oversight, as identified through collaboration with the CDC and ASPR.

If state or federal surveyors are unable to meet the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) expectations outlined by the latest CDC guidance to safely perform an onsite survey due to lack of appropriate PPE supplies, they are instructed to refrain from entering the /provider, and obtain information necessary remotely, to the extent possible. Surveyors should continue the survey once they have the necessary PPE to do so safely.

The Focused Infection Control Survey is available to every provider in the country to make them aware of Infection Control priorities during this time of crisis, with the expectation that providers and suppliers will perform a self-assessment of their ability to meet these priorities. This document may then be requested by surveyors, if an onsite investigation takes place.

This shift in approach will allow health care providers time to implement the most recent infection control guidance from both CMS and the Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention (CDC). At the same time, we are doing our duty to protect patients from harm, and ensuring providers are implementing actions to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Therefore, during the prioritization period, the following surveys will <u>not</u> be authorized:

- Standard surveys for long term care facilities (nursing homes), hospitals, home health agencies (HHAs), intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities (ICF/IIDs), and hospices. This includes the life safety code and Emergency Preparedness elements of those standard surveys;
- Revisits that are not associated with IJ. As a result, the following enforcement actions will be suspended, until revisits are again authorized:
  - For nursing homes Imposition of Denial of Payment for New Admissions (DPNA), including situations where facilities that are not in substantial compliance at 3 months, will be lifted to allow for new admissions during this time;
  - For HHAs Imposition of suspension of payments for new admissions (SPNA) following the last day of the survey when termination is imposed will be lifted to allow for new admissions during this time;
  - For nursing homes and HHAs Suspend per day civil money penalty (CMP) accumulation, and imposition of termination for facilities that are not in substantial compliance at 6 months.
- For CLIA, we intend to prioritize immediate jeopardy situations over recertification surveys.

This announcement follows previous action to focus survey activity on infection control. On March 4, 2020, CMS announced a suspension of inspections for federal and state inspectors (<a href="https://www.cms.gov/medicareprovider-enrollment-and-contifications.go

certificationsurveycertificationgenintopolicy-and/suspension-survey-activities). This earlier announcement focused on immediate jeopardy complaints, complaints alleging infection control concerns – especially COVID-19 – statutorily required surveys, revisit surveys to resolve enforcement actions, initial certifications, inspections for facilities with histories of infection control deficiencies in the last three years, and inspections of facilities with histories of infection control deficiencies at low levels of severity. This action supersedes the March 4<sup>th</sup> announcement, and prioritizes surveys related to complaints and FRIs triaged at the IJ level, while suspending the other types of surveys.

### **Prioritization of Surveys**

When conducting surveys related to complaints and facility-reported incidents (FRIs) that are triaged at the Immediate Jeopardy (IJ) level, and revisit surveys necessary to verify removal of IJ which has been previously cited, surveyors and CMS Regional Offices should adhere to the following guidelines:

- 1. SSAs follow their normal process for triaging complaints and FRIs:
  - a. If a complaint or FRI is triaged at the IJ level, the state should follow the normal policies and procedures for surveying the provider. For example, a survey of a long term care facility (LTC) would be conducted within two

- business days of receipt of the allegation (State Operations Manual (SOM), Chapter 5, Section 5075.9).
- b. If a complaint or FRI is triaged at the non- IJ level, the state would enter the allegation into the ASPEN Complaints/Incidents Tracking System (ACTS) per the instructions in the SOM Chapter 5. An onsite survey will not be conducted during the prioritization period. CMS will issue guidance related to these non-IJ complaints or FRIs in the next few weeks.
- c. This normal complaint triaging process also applies to CLIA complaints.
- For facilities that have been cited for IJ-level deficiencies and that surveyors have not verified that the IJ has been removed, surveyors would proceed as normal, and conduct a revisit survey to verify the IJ is removed.
  - a. If the revisit survey determines there is continuing noncompliance, but not at the IJ level, surveyors would not conduct another onsite revisit survey. The provider may submit a plan of correction (POC), but an onsite revisit survey will not be conducted during the prioritization period, and these cases will be held. The provider may delay submission of a plan of correction until this prioritization period is over.
  - b. If a survey is conducted because a complaint or FRI was triaged at the IJ level, and the provider is cited for noncompliance, but not at the IJ level (e.g., Level 3 actual harm), surveyors would not conduct a revisit survey. The provider may submit a plan of correction (POC), but an onsite revisit survey will not be conducted during the prioritization period, and these cases will be held. The provider may delay submission of a plan of correction until this prioritization period is over.
  - c. For level-3 (LTC) or condition level (Non-LTC) citations (for which an onsite revisit survey would normally be conducted), the provider <u>may</u> submit a plan of correction (POC), but an onsite revisit survey will not be conducted during the prioritization period, and these cases will be held. The provider may delay submission of a plan of correction until this prioritization period is over. CMS will issue guidance on how to verify compliance with these citations in the next few weeks.
  - d. For level-2 (LTC) or standard level (non-LTC) citations, the provider <u>may</u> submits a POC, and providers and survey agencies could verify compliance through normal procedures through a desk review. The provider may delay submission of a plan of correction until this prioritization period is over.
  - e. For clinical laboratories, surveyors will conduct a revisit survey to verify removal of IJ once a credible allegation of compliance has been received.
- 3. Federal CMS and State Surveyors will conduct focused Infection Control surveys in areas deemed necessary through collaboration with CDC and ASPR. Please note this workload for SSAs is contingent on their ability to perform surveys based on PPE availability and fulfillment of other State Emergency Response responsibilities (such as staffing medical shelters or testing stations).
  - a. Revisit surveys: Surveyors will follow the same guidance for revisit surveys explained in section 2 above.
  - b. Enforcement actions will also follow the guidance for all other surveys during the prioritization period explained in section 4 below.
- 4. Enforcement Actions:

- a. For pending enforcement cycles during the prioritization period where the provider is currently not in substantial compliance or has not had a revisit survey to verify substantial compliance, and a per day civil money penalty (CMP), or DPNA (for nursing homes) or SPNA (for HHAs) was imposed for noncompliance that occurred prior to the prioritization date of surveys: These remedies will be suspended (stopped) as of the start of the survey prioritization date. In other words, the CMP will stop accruing and the DPNA/SPNA will end as of the suspension date. Additionally, CMS will not impose any new remedies to address noncompliance that occurred prior to the start of the survey prioritization period. NOTE: This does not apply to unremoved IJs. Enforcement actions will proceed as usual per the SOM for unremoved IJ deficiencies. CMS will issue guidance on how to reconcile these actions in the next few weeks.
- b. For pending enforcement cycles during the prioritization period where the provider is currently not in substantial compliance or has not had a revisit survey to verify substantial compliance, and for pending enforcement cycles with new noncompliance cited after the issuance of this memo, and a per day CMP, or DPNA (for nursing homes) or SPNA (for HHAs) was imposed for II level noncompliance (where the IJ has not been removed): Surveyors will follow normal policies and procedures for removing the IJ. CMS will also follow normal policies and procedures for imposing enforcement remedies for remediating the noncompliance. For example, for noncompliance cited at the IJ level, that has not been removed at the time of the survey exit, the CMS Office will impose an enforcement remedy (e.g., CMP, 23 day termination), and the state surveyors will conduct a revisit survey. On the revisit survey, surveyors will either verify substantial compliance, or cite noncompliance at a lower level if warranted.
  - i. If the IJ noncompliance is reduced and cited at level 3 (LTC) or condition level (non-LTC), an onsite revisit survey will not be conducted during the prioritization period, and these cases will be held. CMS will issue guidance on how to impose enforcement and verify compliance with these in the next few weeks (see 2.c.).
  - ii. If the IJ noncompliance is reduced and cited at level 2 (LTC) or standard level (non-LTC), facilities and survey agencies would verify compliance through normal procedures through a desk review (see 2.d.). However, CMS should not impose remedies during the prioritization period for any noncompliance that was identified before or after the start of the survey prioritization period, unless the noncompliance is an unremoved IJ.
- c. The three-month mandatory DPNA and six-month mandatory termination (nursing homes) for not being in substantial compliance (for nursing homes and HHAs) will not take place, and be deferred for an evaluation at a later date. However, enforcement actions related to IJ remain and continue under normal procedures.
- d. If CMS has previously imposed an alternative sanction (e.g., SPNA, CMP) on a HHA for noncompliance identified prior to the suspension, the six-month

- mandatory termination will not take place, and be deferred for an evaluation at a later date.
- e. For existing CLIA enforcement cases where a civil money penalty (CMP) per day of non-compliance was imposed, accrual of CMP will stop as of the survey COVID-19 suspension date. CMS will issue guidance on how to reconcile these actions in the next few weeks. Other CLIA enforcement actions that have been initiated will be handled on a case-by-case basis with consultation DCLIQ managers and staff.
- 5. If during an IJ complaint or FRI survey, the surveyor identifies that there is an active COVID-19 case in the facility:

If the COVID-19 case is, or is not, related to the IJ, surveyors should report the case and facility to their agency, the state health department (to coordinate with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)), and the CMS Regional Office. These agencies should coordinate and decide on any further actions that should be taken. The Infection Control focused survey process can be used to investigate noncompliance and ensure the provider takes steps to minimize transmission.

For onsite surveys that were started prior to the prioritization period and don't fall under this guidance, survey teams should end the survey and exit the facility.

Lastly, any initial certification surveys remain authorized to increase the health care capacity of the country.

*Note*: While CMS' directive applies to the CMS' federal surveyors and state agency surveyors, CMS also urges other surveyors, including accrediting organizations (AOs), to follow suit. Additionally, CMS' survey prioritization applies to surveys for compliance with federal regulations, not state surveys pursuant to state licensure.

### Additional Instructions for Nursing Homes

We are disseminating the Infection Control survey developed by CMS and CDC so facilities can educate themselves on the latest practices and expectations. We expect facilities to use this new process, in conjunction with the latest guidance from CDC, to perform a self-assessment of their ability to prevent the transmission of COVID-19. This document may be requested by surveyors, if an onsite investigation takes place. We also encourage nursing homes to share the results of this assessment with their state or local health department Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Program. Contact information for each state's health departments is identified on the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention's (CDC's) website at: https://www.cdc.gov/HAI/state-based/index.html.

Furthermore, we remind facilities that they are required to have a system of surveillance designed to identify possible communicable diseases or infections before they can spread to other persons in the facility, and when and to whom possible incidents of communicable disease or infections should be reported (42 CFR 483.80(a)(2)(i) and (ii)). CDC recommends that nursing homes notify their health department about residents with severe respiratory infection, or a cluster of respiratory illness (e.g., > or = 3 residents or HCP with new-onset respiratory symptoms within 72 hours). Local and state reporting guidelines or requirements may vary. Monitor the CDC website for information and resources to help prevent the

introduction and spread of COVID-19 in nursing homes (CDC Preparing for COVID-19: Long-term Care Facilities, Nursing Homes: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/healthcare-facilities/prevent-spread-in-long-term-care-facilities.html). We urge providers to review the tools and implement actions to protect the health and safety of individuals to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CMS will continue to evaluate the survey prioritization in light of the situation on the ground in areas with large numbers of COVID-19 cases, to determine if CMS needs to continue this past the initial three weeks.

Contact: Questions about this document should be addressed to QSOG EmergencyPrep@cms.hhs.gov.

Effective Date: Immediately. This policy should be communicated with all survey and certification staff, their managers and the State/Regional Office training coordinators immediately.

/s/ David R. Wright

cc: Survey and Operations Group Management

·			
		•	
			·

## Summary of the COVID-19 Focused Survey for Nursing Homes

Survey Protocol for more detailed information as well as the Focused Survey. Facilities can review the Focused Survey to determine This is a summary of the COVID-19 Focused Survey for Nursing Homes and the Survey Protocol. Surveyors should review the CMS's expectations for an infection prevention and control program during the COVID-19 pandemic.

PLEASE NOTE: Complaints alleging Immediate Jeopardy to Patient Health and Safety will continue to be Investigated.

If the survey team plans to enter a facility with an active COVID-19 case, the survey team should contact their State Survey Agency (SSA), the state health department, and CMS Regional Location to coordinate activities for these facilities.      Ensure surveyors are medically cleared, trained in the appropriate use of and have needed personal protective equipment (PPE) that could be required onsite.      Conduct offsite planning to limit interruptions to care while onsite. Obtain information on:	Activity		O	A constant
If the survey team plans to an active COVID-19 case, should contact their State (SSA), the state health del Regional Location to coor these facilities.  Ensure surveyors are med trained in the appropriate needed personal protective that could be required ons.  Conduct offsite planning to care while onsite. Obtato CDC, state/local public OCDC, state/local public Date all pages of the state of the s			Onsite Survey Activity	Assessment
an active COVID-19 case, should contact their State (SSA), the state health dely Regional Location to cool these facilities.  • Ensure surveyors are med trained in the appropriate needed personal protectivy that could be required ons to care while onsite. Obta o Facility-reported info o CDC, state/local public o Available hospital info patients transferred to complaint allegations.			If the survey team identifies an active COVID-19	Facilities should utilize the
should contact their State (SSA), the state health del Regional Location to coor these facilities.  Ensure surveyors are med trained in the appropriate needed personal protectiv that could be required ons  Conduct offsite planning to care while onsite. Obts  O Facility-reported info  CDC, state/local publ  O Available hospital inf patients transferred to  Complaint allegations  List key survey activities	s, the survey team	Ŭ	case after entering a facility, the survey team	COVID-19 Focused Survey for
(SSA), the state health del Regional Location to coor these facilities.  • Ensure surveyors are med trained in the appropriate needed personal protective that could be required ons conduct offsite planning to care while onsite. Obtato o Pacility-reported info o CDC, state/local public Available hospital informations of Complaint allegations.  • List key survey activities conducted based on the allegations of the state of the conducted based on the allegations of the state of the st	Survey Agency		should contact their SSA, the state health	Nursing Homes as a self-
Regional Location to coon these facilities.  Ensure surveyors are med trained in the appropriate needed personal protective that could be required ons to care while onsite. Obtato o Pacility-reported info o CDC, state/local public Available hospital infinations of Complaint allegations.  List key survey activities conducted based on the allegations these conducted based on the allegations of the support of the allegations of th	partment, and CMS	•	department, and CMS Regional Location to	for salf assessment include all
these facilities.  Ensure surveyors are med trained in the appropriate needed personal protective that could be required ons  Conduct offsite planning to care while onsite. Obtato CDC, state/local publo O Available hospital information patients transferred to Complaint allegations.  List key survey activities conducted based on the allegations.	rdinate activities for	Ū	coordinate activities for the facility.	of the following:
Ensure surveyors are med trained in the appropriate needed personal protectivy that could be required ons     Conduct offsite planning to care while onsite. Obta o Facility-reported info o CDC, state/local public o Available hospital infinate patients transferred to o Complaint allegations     List key survey activities conducted based on the allegations.		0	Limit the onsite team to one to two surveyors.	1. Standard and Transmission-
trained in the appropriate needed personal protective that could be required ons conduct offsite planning to care while onsite. Obtato o Pacility-reported info o CDC, state/local public Available hospital infination of patients transferred to complaint allegations.  List key survey activities conducted based on the all	lically cleared,		Identify offsite contact for receipt of information.	Based Precautions:
Conduct offsite planning to care while onsite. Obta to care while onsite. Obta o Eacility-reported info o CDC, state/local publ o Available hospital info patients transferred to complaint allegations.      List key survey activities conducted based on the allegation that the conducted based on the allegations.	use of and have		Adhere to all CDC guidance for infection	2. Resident care;
Conduct offsite planning is to care while onsite. Obtato o Facility-reported infoo o CDC, state/local public o Available hospital infoo patients transferred to o Complaint allegations.      List key survey activities conducted based on the allegations.	ve equipment (PPE)		prevention and control related to COVID-19.	3. Infection prevention and
Conduct offsite planning to care while onsite. Obtso       Eacility-reported info       CDC, state/local publ       Available hospital info       patients transferred to       Complaint allegations       List key survey activities       conducted based on the all	site.		Provide the facility with the COVID-19 Entrance	control standards, policies
to care while onsite. Obta	to limit interruptions		Conference worksheet and utilize this to request	and procedures;
<ul> <li>Pacility-reported info</li> <li>CDC, state/local publ</li> <li>Available hospital inf</li> <li>patients transferred to</li> <li>Complaint allegations</li> <li>List key survey activities</li> </ul>	ain information on:		necessary information.	4. Infection surveillance;
CDC, state/local publ     Available hospital inf     patients transferred to     Complaint allegations     List key survey activities     conducted based on the al	ormation;		Limit activities to those that are necessary to occur	5. Visitor entry (i.e., screening,
<ul> <li>Available hospital inf patients transferred to</li> <li>Complaint allegations</li> <li>List key survey activities</li> </ul>	lic health reports;		onsite (e.g., observations, some interviews).	restriction, and education);
patients transferred to  Complaint allegations  List key survey activities  conducted based on the al	formation regarding	•	Identify and arrange for interviews that can be	6. Education, monitoring, and
<ul> <li>Complaint allegations</li> <li>List key survey activities</li> <li>conducted based on the all</li> </ul>	o the hospital; and/or		done telephonically.	screening of staff; and
List key survey activities     conducted based on the al	S.		While the primary focus is COVID-19, investigate	7. Emergency preparedness -
conducted based on the al	that will be		any other areas of potential noncompliance where	staffing in emergencies
	conducted based on the above information and		there is a likelihood of immediate jeopardy (IJ).	
identify the records that will be reviewed.	will be reviewed.		Follow the interpretive guidance and CE pathways	
<ul> <li>Identify any processes that can occur offsite.</li> </ul>	at can occur offsite.		relevant to the area of concern, including	
This includes any phone interviews and	interviews and		Appendix Q and completion of an IJ Template (if	
documentation review, such as electronic	uch as electronic		indicated).	
medical records and policies and procedures.	cies and procedures.			
<ul> <li>Conduct any survey exit discussion with the</li> </ul>	discussion with the			
facility by telephone and draft th	draft the CMS-2567			
offsite.				

# Summary of the COVID-19 Focused Survey for Acute and Continuing Care Providers

Protocol for more detailed information. Facilities can review the Focused Survey to determine CMS's expectations for an infection This is a summary of the COVID-19 Focused Survey for acute and continuing care providers (Non-Long term care facilities). Surveyors should review the Focused Infection Control Survey tool in light of the established State Operations Manual Survey prevention and control program during the COVID-19 pandemic.

PLEASE NOTE: Complaints alleging Immediate Jeopardy to Patient Health and Safety will continue to be Investigated.

		Offsite Survey Activity	Onsite Survey Activity		Provider Self-Assessment
		If the survey team plans to enter a facility with an active COVID-19 case, the survey team	• If the survey team identifies an active COVID-19 case after entering a facility, the survey team	e COVID-19 ey team	Facilities should utilize the COVID-19 Focused Survey as a self-assessment tool. Priority
		should contact their State Survey Agency (SA), the state health department, and CMS	should contact their SA, the state fleating department, and CMS Regional Location to coordinate activities for the facility.	ation to	areas for self- assessment include all of the following:
		Regional Location to coordinate activities for these facilities.	Surveyors will access the COVID-19 Focused     Survey Protocol documents when assessing	Focused sessing	1. Visitor entry (i.e., screening, restriction and education).
	•	cleared, trained in the appropriate use of and	infection control issues during the COVD-19 pandemic.	OVD-19	2. Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions:
-		(PPE) that could be required onsite.	• Limit the team to one to two surveyors.	ors.	3. Infection prevention and
	•	Conduct offsite planning to limit interruptions to care while onsite. Obtain information on:	<ul> <li>Surveyors should limit activities to those that are necessary to occur onsite (e.g., observations, some</li> </ul>	hose that are vations, some	control standards, policies and procedures (patient care, hand
		o Facility-reported information;	interviews).	ction	hygiene, PPE, cleaning and disinfection, surveillance);
		<ul> <li>CDC, state/local public nearin reports,</li> <li>Complaint allegations.</li> </ul>	prevention and control related to COVID-19.	VID-19.	4. Education, monitoring, and
	•	List key survey activities that will be	• While the primary focus is COVID-19, you should	19, you should	5. Emergency preparedness –
		conducted based on the above information and identify the records that will be reviewed.	investigate any other areas of potential noncompliance where there is a likelihood of	lal lihood of	staffing in emergencies
	0	Identify any processes that can occur offsite.	immediate jeopardy (IJ). Follow the interpretive	interpretive sem. including	
		This includes any phone interviews and documentation review, such as electronic	Appendix Q and completion of an IJ Template (if	Template (if	
		medical records and policies and procedures.	indicated).		
	0	Conduct any survey exit discussion with the			
		facility by telephone and draft the CMS-250/ offsite.			

### Infection Control

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

ensure their activities do not interfere with the active treatment or prevention of transmission of COVID-19. 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 This survey tool provides a focused review of the critical elements associated with the transmission of COVID-19, will help surveyors to prioritize

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

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

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

### 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

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

not having certain supplies (e.g., PPE such as gowns, N95 respirators, surgical masks) if they are having difficulty obtaining these supplies for 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

### Page 2

## COVID-19 Focused Survey for Nursing Homes

surveyor believes a facility should be cited for not having or providing the necessary supplies, the State Agency should contact the CMS Regional 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 reasons outside of their control. However, we do expect facilities to take actions to mitigate any resource shortages and show they are taking all 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 nCoV/hcp/index.html and healthcare facilities is located at: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/healthcare-facilities/index.html. If a which may be a regional or national issue), the facility should contact the local and state public health agency to notify them of the shortage, follow national and/or local guidelines for optimizing their current supply or identify the next best option to care for residents. Among other national and/or local guidelines). Current CDC guidance for healthcare professionals is located at: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-General Standard Precautions Location.

- 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 implementing appropriate hand hygiene?
- If alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) is available, is it readily accessible and 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?
- Interview appropriate staff to determine if hand hygiene supplies are readily available and who they contact for replacement supplies.

### Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Determine if staff a
Ğ
ğ
Ö
Ά.
쬬.
ਰ
7
ਟੇ
Š
)
H
Ų
Ħ
ನ
Ξ
2
₽
ûδ
ng, bi
ng, but
ng, but n
ng, but not
ng, but not 11
ng, but not iim
ng, but not iimit
ng, but not iimited
ng, but not umited t
ng, but not iimited to,
ng, but not united to, u
ng, but not limited to, the
ng, but not immited to, the it
ng, but not iimited to, the toll
ng, but not iimited to, the follow
ng, but not iimited to, the tollow
ng, but not iimited to, the followin
Determine if staff appropriately use PPE including, but not imited to, the lonewing:

- 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;
- 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?
- Interview appropriate staff to determine if PPE is available, accessible and used by staff. If PPE use is extended/reused according to national and/or local guidelines, it is cleaned/decontaminated/maintained after and/or between uses?
- 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 Droplet Precautions: staff don a facemask within six feet of a resident; 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 Airborne Precautions: staff don an N95 or higher level respirator prior to room entry of a resident;
- isolation gown) with eye protection when caring for a resident unless the suspected diagnosis requires Airborne Precautions (e.g., For a resident with an undiagnosed respiratory infection: staff follow Standard, Contact, and Droplet Precautions (i.e., facemask, gloves,
- if available. A facemask is an acceptable alternative if a respirator is not available. Additionally, if there are COVID-19 cases in the tuberculosis); For a resident with known or suspected COVID-19: staff wear gloves, isolation gown, eye protection and an N95 or higher-level respirator facility or sustained community transmission, staff implement universal use of facemasks while in the facility (based on availability).
- 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, nebulizer treatments, 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
- is medically necessary, then it should take place in a private room with the door closed. AGPs should ideally take place in an airborne infection isolation room (AIIR). If an AIIR is not available and the procedure

(3/20/2020)

1124 (19.35)

	■ Clean and disinfect the room surfaces promptly and with appropriate disinfectant. Use disinfectants on List N of the FPA
	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 EDA regidered disinfected according to manufacturers, instructions using an EDA regidered disinfected according to manufacturers, instructions using an EDA regidered disinfected according to manufacturers, instructions using an EDA regidered disinfected according to manufacturers, instructions using an EDA regidered disinfected according to manufacturers.
•	healthcare setting prior to use on another resident;  Objects and environmental surfaces that are touched fremently and in close provimity to the resident (e.g., bed reils, over to ded 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.
Ħ	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)?

2. Resident Care

☐ If there is 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?  ☐ Has the facility placed 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?	Entropy 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?
--	---

<ul> <li>5. Visitor Entry</li> <li>Review for compliance of:</li> <li>Screening processes and criteria (i.e., screening questions and assessment of illness);</li> <li>Restriction criteria; and</li> <li>Signage posted at facility entrances for screening and restrictions as well as a communication plan to alert visitors of new procedures/restrictions.</li> </ul>
4. Did the facility provide appropriate infection surveillance?   Yes No F880
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, 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?   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)?   Transmission-Based Precautions/PPE (the plan may include tracking this information in an infectious disease log)?   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.
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
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?  Concerns must be corroborated as applicable including the review of pertinent policies/procedures as necessary.
2. Did staff provide appropriate resident care? Yes No F880

(3/20/2020)

Page 5

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  [Insert State of Staff of 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:
<ul> <li>Place them in a facemask and have them return home;</li> <li>Inform the facility's infection preventionist and include information on individuals, equipment, and locations the person came in contact with; and</li> </ul>
• Follow the local health department recommendations for next steps?
6. Did the facility provide appropriate education, monitoring, and screening of staff? [1] Yes. [3] 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?

(3/20/2020)

Page 6

assess in light of COVID-19. See also QSO-20-12-All, and any subsequently released memos, for additional information related to survey activity. longterm care providers/suppliers. It is not all encompassing of the CoP/CfC requirements but is meant to focus surveyors on important areas to Disclaimer: This is a supplement to the existing infection control review outlined within the State Operations Manual guidance for each of the non-

and determine whether the provider is implementing proper infection prevention and control practices to prevent the development and transmission General guidance: This survey tool must be used to investigate compliance with the general infection prevention and control (IPC) requirements provider (see QSO 20-12-All for more detail). review. The focused infection control survey is meant to be short in nature to minimize interputions in care and transmission of potential of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases and infections. Items are assessed by a combination of observation, interview, and documentation diseases/infections during the GOVID-19 pandemic. If possible, offsite review of medical records and documentation should be arranged with the

generating procedures section). the same acuity or capacity and therfore, depending upon the setting, not all information will be applicable on every survey (e.g., aerosol Content within this tool may be generally applied to any setting. However, CMS recognizes that not all acute and continuing care providers have

health where care is provided in the home. patients on behalf of the facility. Additionally, the general term "facility" means inpatient, congregate settings, hospitals, intermediate care For purposes of this document, "staff" includes employees, consultants, contractors, volunteers, and others who provide care and services to facilities for individuals with developmental disabilities, dialysis facilities, and clinics, and "home" refers to settings such as hospice and home

Surveyors and facilities are urged to frequently review the CDC resources noted in previous memos for the most up to date and detailed miormation

### Entering the Facility/Triage/Registration/Visitor Handling

Prior to entering the facility:

- Is signage posted at facility entrances with visitation restrictions and screening procedures?
- Are signs posted at entrances with instructions to individuals seeking medical care with symptoms of respiratory infection to immediately perform hand hygiene after contact with respiratory secretions? put on a mask and keep it on during their assessment, cover their mouth/nose when coughing or sneezing, use and dispose of tissues, and

Upon entering the facility:

- Are staff trained on appropriate processes (e.g., questions to ask and actions to take) to rapidly identify and isolate suspect COVID-19
- Is there a process that occurs after a suspected case is identified to include immediate notification of facility leadership/infection control?

### Visitation:

Disclaimer. This is a supplement to the existing infection control review outlined within the State Operations Manual guidance for each of the nonlongterm care providers/suppliers. It is not all encompassing of the CoP/CfC requirements but is meant to focus surveyors on important areas to assess in light of COVID-19. See also QSO-20-12-All, and any subsequently released memos, for additional information related to survey activity.

- Are facilities actively screening visitors (CDC currently recomends staff are checking for fever and signs and/or symptoms of respiratory infection, and other criteria such as travel or exposure to COVID-19)?
  - What is your current screening criteria?
- For permitted visitors are they instructed to frequently perform hand hygiene; limit their interactions with others in the facility; restrict their visit to the patient's room or other location designated by the facility; and offered personal protective equipment (PPE) as supply
- Facilities should limit visitation.

Did the facility perform appropriate screening of visitors? 🔝 Yes 🔝 No (see appropriate IPC tags for the provider/supplier type)

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

reasons outside of their control. However, CMS does expect facilities to take actions to mitigate any resource shortages and show they are taking not having certain supplies (e.g., PPE such as gowns, N95 respirators, surgical masks) if they are having difficulty obtaining these supplies for 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 shortage which may be a regional or national issue), the facility should contact the local and state public health agency to notify them of the 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, follow national and/or local guidelines for optimizing their current supply or identify the next best option to care for patients.

splashes or sprays, high contact procedures, or aerosol generating procedures (AGPs), as well as possibly extending use of PPE (follow national Optimizing their current supply may mean prioritizing use of gowns based on risk of exposure to infectious organisms, blood or body fluids, and/or local guidelines). If a surveyor believes a facility should be cited for not having or providing the necessary supplies, the State Agency should contact their respecctive CMS Location Office.

### General Standard Precautions

- Are staff performing the following appropriately:
- Safe injection practices,
- Respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette,
- Environmental cleaning and disinfection, and
- Reprocessing of reusable patient medical equipment (i.e., cleaning and disinfection)?

assess in light of COVID-19. See also QSO-20-12-All, and any subsequently released memos, for additional information related to survey activity. longterm care providers/suppliers. It is not all encompassing of the CoP/CfC requirements but is meant to focus surveyors on important areas to Disclaimer: This is a supplement to the existing infection control review outlined within the State Operations Manual guidance for each of the non-

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):  Determine if staff appropriately use and discard PPE including, but not limited to, the following:  Gloves are worn if potential contact with blood or body fluid, nucous membranes, or non-intact skin;  Gloves are removed after contact with blood or body fluids, nucous membranes, or non-intact skin;  Gloves are changed and hand hygiene is performed before moving from a contaminated site to a clean site during care (body, equipment, etc);  A gown is worn for direct patient contact if the patient has uncontained secretions or excretions;  A facemask, gloves, isolation gown, and eye protection are worn when caring for a patient with new acute cough or symptoms of an undiagnosed respiratory infection unless the suspected diagnosis requires airborne precautions (e.g., tuberculosis).	Did staff implement appropriate hand hygiene? 🔲 Yes 🔛 No (see appropriate IPC tags for the provider/supplier type)
No (see appropriate IPC tags	

Page 3

Aerosol - Generating Procedures

Disclaimer: This is a supplement to the existing infection control review outlined within the State Operations Manual guidance for each of the nonlongterm care providers/suppliers. It is not all encompassing of the CoP/CfC requirements but is meant to focus surveyors on important areas to assess in light of COVID-19. See also QSO-20-12-All, and any subsequently released memos, for additional information related to survey activity.

- for performing aerosol-generating and/or procedures that are likely to generate splashes or sprays of blood or body fluids and COVID-19 is Appropriate mouth, nose, clothing, gloves, and eye protection (e.g., N95 or higher-level respirator, if available; face shield, gowns) is worn
- Some procedures performed on patient with known or suspected COVID-19 could generate infectious aerosols. In particular, procedures that are likely to induce coughing (e.g., sputum induction, open suctioning of airways, nebulizing treatment) 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 a gown.
- The number of staff present during the procedure should be limited to only those essential for care and procedure support. 0
- Aerosol-generating procedures (AGPs) should ideally take place in an airborne infection isolation room (AIIR), or private room with the door closed if AIIR is not available.
  - Clean and disinfect procedure room surfaces promptly as and with appropriate disinfectant.
- Extended use of respirators, facemasks, and eye protection is permitted in times of shortages (follow national guidelines);
  - PPE is appropriately discarded after care, prior to leaving room, followed by hand hygiene;
- Are there sufficient PPE supplies available to follow infection prevention and control guidelines for COVID-19;
  - In the event of PPE shortages, what procedures is the facility taking to address this issue?

SS
)ie
ğ
S
ement
띪
ပ္ထ
ď
ect for rep
H
4
ઇ
13
Ö
~
ୂର
⇌
9
$\triangleright$
and who th
5
<u>le</u>
3
Ē
2
22
$\pm$
eadil
'n
plies are r
S
펽
ď
S
Ĭή
PPE
if PPE
41
ermine
E
ţ.
ə
Š
Εŧ
taj
(C)
ä
Ä
ĮĮ.
ğ
ä
⋧
7e
1
pt

(be)
plier 1
[dd]
18
<u>୍</u> ଟ
:5
5
ă
the 1
#
Ħ
gs for
. ge
43
Ç
IPC tags
ate IPC
2
Ē
ď
ä
<u></u>
ंध्य
ě
٣
No No
L
83
? \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
? \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
? \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
? \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
? \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
? \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
? \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
e use of PPE? Tyes
? \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
e use of PPE? Tyes
e use of PPE? Tyes
e use of PPE? Tyes
propriate use of PPE?
element appropriate use of PPE?
propriate use of PPE?
element appropriate use of PPE?
element appropriate use of PPE?
element appropriate use of PPE?
element appropriate use of PPE?
element appropriate use of PPE?

### Transmission-Based Precautions:

Determine if appropriate transmission-based precautions are implemented, including but not limited to:

- Signage on the patient's room regarding need for transmission-based precautions.
- facemask within three feet of a patient on droplet precautions; for facilities that use/have N-95 masks don an fit-tested N95 or higher level PPE use by staff (i.e., don gloves and gowns before contact with the patient and their care environment while on contact precautions; don respirator prior to room entry of a patient on airborne precautions);
- Dedicated or disposable noncritical patient-care equipment (e.g., blood pressure cuffs, blood glucose monitor equipment) are used, or if not available, then equipment is cleaned and disinfected according to manufacturers' instructions using an EPA-registered disinfectant prior to use on another patient or before being returned to a common clean storage area;
  - When transport or movement is medically-necessary outside of the patient room, does the patient wear a facemask?
- Contaminated surfaces, objects and environmental surfaces that are touched frequently and in close proximity to the patient (e.g., bed rails, over-bed table, bathrooms) are cleaned and disinfected with an EPA-registered disinfectant for healthcare use (effective against the organism identified if known) at least daily and when visibly soiled.

assess in light of COVID-19. See also QSO-20-12-All, and any subsequently released memos, for additional information related to survey activity. longterm care providers/suppliers. It is not all encompassing of the CoP/CfC requirements but is meant to focus surveyors on important areas to Disclaimer: This is a supplement to the existing infection control review outlined within the State Operations Manual guidance for each of the non-

staff to determine if they are aware of processes/protocols for transmission ance. in the home, has the provider, educated patients and family members regar g transmission of COVID-19. staff to determine if they are aware of processes/protocols for transmission ance. fied, expand the sample to include more patients with transmission-based p appropriate transmission-based precautions?  Yes  No (see a)
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 patients with transmission-based precautions.
Yes No (see a)
Policy and Procedure:  The facility established a facility-wide IPCP including written IPCP standards, policies, and procedures that are current and based on national standards for undiagnosed respiratory illness and COVID-19.  Concerns must be corroborated as applicable including the review of pertinent policies/procedures as necessary.
Did the facility develop and implement an overall IPCP including policies and procedures for for undiagnosed respiratory illness and COVID-19?  No (see appropriate IPC tags for the provider/supplier type)
Infection Surveillance:  Does the facility know how many patients in the facility have been diagnosed with COVID-19 (suspected and confirmed)?  The facility has established/implemented a surveillance plan, based on a facility assessment, for identifying, tracking, monitoring and/or reporting of fever, respiratory illness, or other signs/symptoms of COVID-19.  The plan includes early detection, management of a potentially infectious, symptomatic patient and the implementation of appropriate
The facility has a process for communicating the diagnosis, treatment, and laboratory test results when transferring patients to an acute care nospital or other healthcare provider.
Staff can identify communication protocol with local/state public health officials.

Said Or .

Interview appropriate staff to determine if infection control concerns are identified, reported, and acted upon.

Disclaimer: This is a supplement to the existing infection control review outlined within the State Operations Manual guidance for each of the nonlongterm care providers/suppliers. It is not all encompassing of the CoP/CfC requirements but is meant to focus surveyors on important areas to assess in light of COVID-19. See also QSO-20-12-All, and any subsequently released memos, for additional information related to survey activity.

Did the facility provide appropriate infection surveillance? 📋 Yes. 📋 No (see appropriate IPC tags for the provider/supplier type)
<ul> <li>Education, Monitoring, and Screening of Staff</li> <li>Is there evidence the provider has educated staff on COVID-19 (e.g., symptoms, how it is transmited, screening criteria, work exclusions)?</li> <li>How does the provider convey updates on COVID-19 to all staff?</li> <li>Does the provider have a process for screening all staff for fever and/or signs/symptoms of respiratory illness (i.e., actively take their temperature and document absence of respiratory illness)?</li> <li>If staff are ill at work (as stated above), does the provider: <ul> <li>bave a process for staff to report their illness or developing symptoms;</li> <li>place them in a facemask and have them return home for appropriate medical evaluation;</li> <li>inform the facility's infection preventionist and include information on individuals, equipment, and locations the person came in contact with; and</li> <li>follow the local health department recommendations for next steps.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Does the facility have a policy and procedure for ensuring staffing to meet the needs of the patients when needed during an emergency (e.g., if they start having substantial vacancies or quarantines)?</li> </ul>
Did the facility provide appropriate education, monitoring, and screening of staff?   No (see appropriate IPC tags for the provider/supplier type)
The following sections are specific nuances to consider and assess when on survey.  Considerations Specifically for Surveys of Hospitals and Critical Access Hospitals  Patient Care

leave their room, are they wearing a facemask, performing hand hygiene, limiting their movement in the facility, and performing social distancing (stay at least 6 feet away from others). If PPE shortage is an issue, facemasks should be limited to patients diagnosed with

COVID-19 or has signs/symptoms of respiratory illness or COVID-19.

Is the facility restricting patients (to the extent possible) to their rooms except for medically necessary purposes? If patients have to

1000000

assess in light of COVID-19. See also QSO-20-12-All, and any subsequently released memos, for additional information related to survey activity. longterm care providers/suppliers. It is not all encompassing of the CoP/CfC requirements but is meant to focus surveyors on important areas to Disclaimer: This is a supplement to the existing infection control review outlined within the State Operations Manual guidance for each of the non-

	_
	•
22	Ba
CI II	tier
ati;	ıts
ve i	W.
nez	7
TI STE	TOT
res	ά
did	or
I th	SIIS
e fr	pec
icil	tec
ij	$\overline{c}$
tak	VO
G (	Ä
6	-19
ς ,	S
oho	oul
) ři	ğ
(69)	lea
?	Ty.
	be
	Patients with known or suspected COVID-19 should ideally be placed in a private room.
	ced
	in
	ар
	ijν
	ate
	jor
	Ħ,
	Ħ
	22
	ΠV
	ate
	O
	Ħ
	Wa
	ES.
	ot s
	If a private room was not available, wha
	lla
	ĭle,
	¥
	at
	alternative measures did the facility take (e.g., cohorting)?

### Environmental Cleaning

- include gloves, gowns, masks, and eye protection)? During environmental cleaning procedures, personnel wear appropriate PPE to prevent exposure to infectious agents or chemicals (PPE can
- recommendations; disinfectants that have qualified under EPA's emerging viral pathogens program for use against SARS-COV-2 or other national daily), when spills occur and when surfaces are visibly contaminated? Use disinfectants on List N of the EPA website for EPA-registered Environmental surfaces in patient care areas are cleaned and disinfected, using an EPA-registered disinfectant on a regular basis (e.g.,
- shelf-life, contact time). Cleaners and disinfectants, including disposable wipes, are used in accordance with manufacturer's instructions (e.g., dilution, storage,
- hospital disinfectants? The hospital decontaminates spills of blood or other body fluids according to its policies and procedures, using appropriate EPA-registered

## Did staff provide appropriate environmental cleaning for facilities with known or suspected COVID-19? 🔲 Yes 🔲 No (Hospital Tag A-0747, CAH Tag C-0278)

## Additional Considerations Specifically for Dialysis Facility Surveys

Hand Hygiene Considerations

- Perform handwashing with soap and water at dedicated handwashing sinks if hands are visibily soiled (see § 494.30(a)(1)(i))
- Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene between each patient or dialysis station

### Cleaning and Disinfection Considerations

- taken to a common clean area or used on another patient Items taken to the dialysis station must be either disposed of, dedicated for use on a single patient or cleaned and disinfected before being
- Use proper aseptic technique during vascular access care, medication preparation and administration

Later Barre and the second

### Page 8

# COVID-19 Focused Infection Control Survey: Acute and Continuing Care

Disclaimer: This is a supplement to the existing infection control review outlined within the State Operations Manual guidance for each of the nonlongterm care providers/suppliers. It is not all encompassing of the CoP/CfC requirements but is meant to focus surveyors on important areas to assess in light of COVID-19. See also QSO-20-12-All, and any subsequently released memos, for additional information related to survey activity.

- Proper cleaning and disinfection of the dialysis station including the dialysis machine, chair, prime waste receptacle, reuseable acid and bicarbonate containers after the previous patient fully vacates the station.
  - Clean areas should be clearly designated for the preparation, handling and storage of medications and unusued supplies and equipment.
    - Clean areas should be clearly separated from contaminated areas where used supplies and equipment are handled.
      - Proper disposal of bio-hazard waste

### Isolation Considerations

Ensure dedicated machines, equipment, instruments, supplies, and medications that will not be used to care for non-isolation patients.

Did staff implement appropriate hand hygiene, cleaning/disinfection and isolation considerations? 📋 Yes 🛅 No (see Condition 42 CFR 494.30 and Tags VI10-V148)