



Indiana State
Department of Health

LONG TERM CARE NEWSLETTER

ISDH Long Term Care Newsletter
Issue 2020-10
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Today's Issue:

- UPDATE INDIANA FAMILY & SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION – CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER
- EMResources NOTIFICATION & REGISTRATION

UPDATE FROM CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER – DR. DAN RUSYNIAK

Message:

1. All LTC facilities who have not already done so, need to use this CDC check list to prevent the spread of coronavirus in their facilities. - https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/novel-coronavirus-2019-Nursing-Homes-Preparedness-Checklist_3_13.pdf
2. All LTC facilities should use this sheet to track their infection control activities and to track employees and patients with respiratory illness. - <https://www.cdc.gov/longtermcare/pdfs/LTC-Resp-OutbreakResources-P.pdf>
3. All LTC facilities should have a plan to rapidly implement, or implement now, how they will cohort confirmed or presumed COVID-19 patients in their facilities. This can be by wing, floor, or if available, by building. This should be done with expediency.
4. All LTC facilities should limit patient contact to only essential direct care providers (Nurse, CNA, QMA, Hospice, EMS etc)- https://www.in.gov/coronavirus/files/IN_COVID-19_out_of_hospital_03.18.2020.pdf
5. Once you have access to EMResources, every facility needs to update their status daily. This information is critically important for tracking PPE needs.
6. All LTC facilities should require those involved in direct patient care to wear a mask during their entire shift. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/face-masks.html>
 - a. If national and local supplies are at conventional capacity then all staff in LTC

facilities should wear a facemask per standard recommendations.

b. If national and local supplies are at contingency levels, only direct care staff should wear a mask and they should use one mask per shift. -

c. If national and local supplies are scarce <1 week supply then only direct care staff should wear a mask and they should use the same mask for multiple days

d. If national and local supplies are at crisis capacity then direct patient care staff should wear a mask if available. If masks are not available, they should use alternative methods to cover their mouth and nose and decrease respiratory droplet spread.

7. All LTC facilities need to have updated lists of all residents' code status. Plans should be in place for how to provide hospice and comfort care to those patients with DNR orders who develop COVID-19.

8. ISDH has a team available to come into facilities to rapidly test residents and staff who are suspected of having COVID-19. If your facilities have patients or providers who are symptomatic and need to be tested, please contact COVID-19 Outbreak Response Logistics Coordinator Tami Johnson at 317-412-2127 or tamjohnson@isdh.in.gov to schedule testing at your facility.

9. If you would like to discuss the need for testing at your facility or COVID-19 prevention such as PPE donning and doffing, please contact Casey Cummins, COVID-19 Outbreak Response Chief Nurse Consultant, at 317.954.2591 or ccummins@isdh.in.gov.

We will continue to work closely on behalf of the safety of your residents and staff at this unprecedented time.

EMResource NOTIFICATION & REGISTRATION

EMResource is a web-based resource management and communication tool used by healthcare and government agencies to monitor and notify changes in resources statuses such as diversions, EOC activations, resource availability, and other information.

ISDH Division of Long Term Care has been contacting nursing homes, residential facilities and corporate/management companies asking that all of facilities complete the EMResource questions. The EMResource system can be accessed at: <https://bit.ly/2TUSwAo>

If you already have completed the questionnaire and have access to the EMResource system, please log in and confirm/re-confirm your information.

There is an ISDH training video for additional information: <https://youtu.be/1jy3e2rurLw>

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

