

# COVID-19 Quick Reference Guide for Long-Term Care Facilities

This document serves as a quick COVID-19 reference guide to the PA HANs and other guidance and is specifically meant for long-term care facilities (skilled nursing, personal care homes, assisted living residence, intermediate care facility, etc.).

**Note:** It is best to use Chrome as your internet browser when opening the hyperlinks as it will redirect to the specific page in the document where the information is located. Always make sure you have the most up-to-date version of this document so you may refer to the most recent PA HANs and other guidance.

## Cohorting, Patient Placement, and Reducing Risk of Exposure

- Patient placement for residents with COVID-19 [PA HAN 663](#)
  - [COVID-19 Care Unit](#)
  - [Long-Term Care Guidance for Patient Placement](#)
- Engineering controls and indoor air quality [PA HAN 663](#)
- Aerosol generating procedures [PA HAN 663](#)

## Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection

- Environmental infection control when caring for residents with COVID-19 [PA HAN 663](#)

## Managing Healthcare Personnel

- Definition of healthcare personnel (HCP) [PA HAN 663](#)
- Manage exposed HCP [PA HAN 661](#)
- Manage HCP with COVID-19 [PA HAN 662](#)

## Isolation and Empiric Transmission-Based Precautions

- Establish a process to identify and manage individuals with suspected or confirmed SARS-CoV-2 Infection [PA HAN 663](#)
- Duration of empiric transmission-based precautions for symptomatic residents being evaluated for SARS-CoV-2 infection [PA HAN 663](#)
- Duration of empiric transmission-based precautions for asymptomatic residents following close contact with someone with SARS-CoV-2 infection [PA HAN 663](#)
- Duration of transmission-based precautions for patients or residents with COVID-19 [PA HAN 663](#)

## Outbreak Response

- Responding to a newly identified SARS-CoV-2-infected HCP or resident in a long-term care facility [PA HAN 663](#)
- [Choosing an Outbreak Response Method](#)
- [Contact Tracing Approach](#)

- [Broad-based Approach \(unit-based or facility-wide\)](#)

## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Implement source control measures [PA HAN 663](#)
- Implement universal PPE for HCP [PA HAN 663](#)
- PPE for HCP caring for suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases [PA HAN 663](#)
- [Source control, cloth mask, facemask, respirator definitions](#)

## Testing

- Reporting requirements
  - COVID-19 Vaccine Status (residents & staff) [QSO-21-19-NH](#)
  - COVID-19 Testing Reporting Requirements [PA HAN 633](#) & [PA HAN 635](#)
  - COVID-19 Cases/Deaths (residents & staff) [QSO-20-29-NH](#)
- SARS-CoV-2 Viral Testing [PA HAN 663](#)
  - Testing Summary [CMS QSO 2 38 NH](#)
- Outbreak testing recommendations for long-term care facilities [PA HAN 663](#)
- New resident admission/residents who leave the facility for medical or social reasons testing recommendations [PA HAN 663](#)

## Vaccination

- [Encourage everyone to remain up to date](#)
- Update to Recommendations Regarding COVID-19 Vaccination [PA HAN 628](#)
- [CDC staying up to date with COVID-19 vaccines including boosters](#)

## Visitation

PA HAN visitation guidance applies only to skilled nursing facilities; other facility types should seek guidance from their licensing agency.

- Visitation [PA HAN 663](#)
  - [CMS QSO-20-39-NH](#)
- [Indoor visitation during an outbreak response](#)