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## **Nursing Home COVID-19 Response / Resident Transfer**

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### **ALL NURSING HOMES MUST:**

- **Follow Centers For Disease Control (CDC) Guidance For Response To COVID-19**
- **Transfer Residents with Verified or Suspected COVID-19 if the Facility is Unable to Maintain CDC Standards**
- **Adhere to the COVID-19 Standards that Follow:**

**If a nursing home has one or more cases of confirmed or suspected COVID-19 involving residents or staff, the nursing home must:**

**Isolate residents** with known or suspected COVID-19 - **Residents with COVID-19 must be cared for in a dedicated unit or section, entirely separate and distinct from non-COVID-19 residents of the facility with dedicated staff following CDC PPE recommendations for a dedicated unit.**

**Increase monitoring** of ill residents, including assessment of symptoms, vital signs, oxygen saturation via pulse oximetry, and respiratory exam, to at least 3 times daily to identify and quickly manage serious infection. Monitor asymptomatic residents **every 8 hours** to more rapidly detect any with new symptoms.

**Transfer residents** - If a symptomatic resident requires a higher level of care or the facility cannot fully implement all recommended infection control precautions, the resident must be transferred to another facility that is capable of appropriate isolation and adherence to infection control

standards. **Transport personnel and the receiving facility must be notified about the suspected diagnosis prior to transfer.**

**All nursing homes must:**

**Routinely monitor and follow CDC guidance** [Preparing for COVID-19: Long-term Care Facilities, Nursing Homes](#)

**Create a plan for managing new admissions and readmissions** whose COVID-19 status is unknown, such as placing the resident in a single-person room or in a separate observation area so the resident can be monitored for evidence of COVID-19. Residents may be transferred out of the observation area to the main facility if they remain without fever or symptoms for 14 days after their exposure (or admission). Testing at the end of this period should be considered to increase certainty that the resident is not infected.

**Actively monitor all residents** at least daily for symptoms including fever, cough, shortness of breath and other symptoms as recommended by the CDC Guidance. Since information about the virus continues to evolve, please check the CDC website frequently for guidance on typical and atypical symptoms.

**Notify the county health department** within 12 hours about residents or staff with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.

**Continue strict compliance with facility infection control protocols** consistent with CDC guidelines and nursing home certification requirements.

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