

State of Connecticut
GENERAL ASSEMBLY



NURSING HOME AND ASSISTED LIVING OVERSIGHT WORKING GROUP
OUTBREAK RESPONSE AND SURVEILLANCE SUBCOMMITTEE
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
HARTFORD, CT 06106-1591

Recommendations

Revised

- 1. Expand Qualifications for Infection Control Preventionist, Expand their role to full time and Mandate Infection Training** (Mathematica)
 - a. Require a full time Infection Control Preventionist. Infection Control Preventionist can be given other assignments to complete full time hours, except during an outbreak when infection control prevention will be the full-time assignment. ICP will have a rotating schedule once a month to cover all shifts.
 - b. Infection Control Preventionist responsible for:
 - i. Ongoing training of all employees on infection prevention, using multiple methods including in person, with written materials in both English and Spanish.
 - ii. Provide information in both English and Spanish on infection prevention in the Residence Rights. Post information on infection prevention in visible areas of the building. Available in English and Spanish.
 - iii. Participate on the Infection Control Committee
- 2. Mandate Participation of Assisted Living Mutual Aid Plan** (Mathematica)
- 3. Ensure Adequate, Appropriate, and Available PPE for All Staff**
 - a. Increase the PPE supply (gowns, gloves, masks) requirement to 3 months.
 - b. Require proof of the appropriateness of the PPE: various sizes based on the needs of the employees, no sharing of PPE, reuse per CDC with Crisis Use defined Department of Public Health. Quarterly fittings for N95 masks.
 - c. Require appropriate PPE before beginning shift. If PPE is not available, employee will still get paid until appropriate PPE is provided.

4. Infection Control Committee

- a. Increase meeting requirement from quarterly to monthly. Meetings daily during outbreak-centerpiece of operation.
- b. Responsible for infection prevention protocols. Evaluate the implementation and analyze the outcomes of infection prevention protocols.

5. Mandate Annual Infection Prevention Certification of all Administrators and Supervisors.

6. Mandate Testing of Staff and Residents

- a. Testing to be required at a frequency determined by the Department of Public Health as appropriate based on the circumstances of the outbreak and the impact on controlling infection.

7. Assisted Living Memory Units

- a. Require training of all unit staff on infection prevention.
- b. Develop infection outbreak protocols.

8. Require at least one staff member (RN, LPN) to be certified to start IV's