



GREATER NEW YORK HEALTH CARE FACILITIES ASSOCIATION

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Memo 20-20

To: Administrator, DNS, Medical Director, Infection Preventionist and QA Committee

From: Mary Gracey-White RN, Director of Regulatory Compliance

Date: June 3, 2020

Re: Covid 19 Infection Prevention and Control Update

As we continue to work thru the pandemic, Infection Prevention and Control continues to be our major focus and challenge related to COVID-19. Many facilities have had an onsite Infection Control Survey and all facilities can expect to have this survey by July 31, 2020 as per recently released CMS Memo 20-31 (attached). Additional information outlined in the CMS Memo includes enhanced penalties for noncompliance with infection prevention and control. The enhanced enforcement actions are more significant for nursing homes with a history of past infection control deficiencies, or that cause actual harm to residents or Immediate Jeopardy.

In our continued effort to assist members we have attached updated Resident cohorting guidance utilizing the most current CDC information. Also attached is a sample guide to assist facilities in achieving cohorting and compliance with Infection prevention. As you are aware information regarding Covid 19 is continuing to evolve. We will provide updates as additional information is received. Current resident testing that facilities are now completing is a key component to cohorting. The goal moving forward is to lessen restrictions including activities, dining, and visiting outlined by CMS in Memo 20 -30. As per CMS lessening restrictions at facilities is largely dependent on testing to move through phases of reopening. We have asked NYSDOH to address the CMS guidance as the state has oversight on the plan to reopen nursing homes.

We are also awaiting an updated NYSDOH FAQ document on employee testing to address issues identified during this process. We realize the challenges that this entails. Information

sent directly to facilities by NYSDOH on 6/3/20 includes an updates to the NH Weekly Testing Survey which now includes certification of compliance with the Governor's Executive Orders outlined in 202.30 .This survey was sent directly to all facilities and is due Thursday June 4, 2020 by 5pm.

Please contact the NYS DOH at covidnursinghomeinfo@health.ny.gov or nursinghometesting@health.ny.gov, depending on the inquiry, with any concerns. If you have any further questions or need more information, please contact the Association.