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| **Administrative Policy and Procedure** | **Subject: Group Activities** |
| **Approved by:** |  |
| **Effective:** 4/2/2021 | **Revised:** 7/9/2021 |

**POLICY**

It is the policy of this facility to facilitate group activities for residents while following the core principles and best practices of infection control (social distancing, hand hygiene, and face covering/mask) to reduce the risk of Covid-19 transmission and maintaining the safety and well-being of residents.

**PROCEDURE**

1. The facility will facilitate group activities (e.g. bingo, clubs. music, crafts, movies, exercise, etc.) for residents who have fully recovered from Covid-19, and for those not in isolation, or with suspected or confirmed Covid-19 status.
2. Staff will assist residents with hand hygiene before and after group activities.

* Alcohol-based hand sanitizer/wipes will be readily available for use at all times.

1. Social distancing of at least 6 feet apart will be maintained, as necessary

* Group activities may occur without the use of face coverings or social distancing if all residents (and staff) participating are fully vaccinated
* If there are partially or unvaccinated residents (or staff) in the same room, all persons will wear a face mask (for residents – face mask as tolerated) and partially and unvaccinated residents will be physically distanced from others.

1. Each Unit Manager will maintain a line list of Covid-vaccination status of residents on unit; list will be shared with all staff working on unit
2. Face covering/mask will be worn to and from group activity area(s).
3. For residents on transmission-based precautions, designated activities staff will provide 1:1 activity based on individual resident preferences.
4. Staff in the recreation department will be responsible for safe cleaning, disinfection and storage of recreational materials that are used by residents.
5. Clean and dirty recreational materials will be clearly separated at point of use.
   1. Designated labeled containers will separate dirty or used equipment/devices from those that are clean and ready for use
   2. Recreational materials that have come into contact with resident’s mucous membranes (e.g., mouth and nose) and/or are soiled will be removed from circulation and cleaned/disinfected prior to return to use.
6. Recreational materials used by multiple residents (e.g. busy boards) should be cleaned and disinfected between residents, especially when visibly soiled, or if used by resident on isolation precautions (contact and/or droplet).
7. Recreational materials used in rooms under transmission-based precautions will remain with resident and will be cleaned and disinfected with EPA-approved disinfectant as determined effective for the condition and/or organism that required isolation. Alternatively, consider discarding items.
8. All healthcare personnel will perform hand hygiene with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) before and after contact with each resident.
9. All healthcare personnel will utilize personal protective equipment (PPE) as necessary while interacting with residents who are on transmission-based precautions during recreational activities.

**REFERENCE(S)**

APIC Text, 4th Ed., Section 42-10, “Toys”

Infection Control in Pediatric Office Settings. *Pediatric Child Health*. 2008;13(5):408–435.

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CDC (Updated 4/27/2021). Updated Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations in Response to Covid-19 Vaccination. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-after-vaccination.html>

CMS (Rev 4/27/2021). QSO-20-39-NH: Nursing Home Visitation- Covid-19. <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-39-nh-revised.pdf>

NYSDOH (7/8/2021). Health Advisory: Revised Skilled Nursing Facility Visitation. <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2021/07/nh_visitation_guidance_-7-8-2021.pdf>