COVID-19 QUICK TIPS | **LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES**

QUICK TIP 1

Take steps to protect staff and residents.

- ☐ **All staff must wear surgical masks, fit-tested N95s (as appropriate), or Kn95s**
- ☐ **Staff must wear appropriate PPE, including face shields, when they are interacting with residents**
- ☐ **Require residents to wear cloth masks outside of their rooms, if able**

- ☐ **Create a plan for management of COVID-19 positive residents including designating a COVID-19 Unit and Observation Unit**
- ☐ **Create an infection control plan** that addresses visitation, cohorting measures, sick leave, return-to-work policies, and testing and immunization policies

- ☐ **Clean and disinfect regularly** with EPA approved disinfectants
- ☐ **Limit visitor access** to your building
- ☐ **Screen residents, staff and visitors** for symptoms
- ☐ **Follow Administrative Orders** for Long-Term Care Facilities dph.georgia.gov/administrative-orders

- ☐ **Monitor county positivity rate and adjust the frequency of performing staff testing** based on CMS guidelines
- ☐ **Consult authorities on a regular basis** to ensure knowledge of current guidance and recommendations
  - cms.gov
  - cdc.gov
  - dph.georgia.gov

QUICK TIP 2

Watch for symptoms of illness.

Individuals who have COVID-19 may present with the following:

- ☐ Fever or chills
- ☐ New cough
- ☐ Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- ☐ New loss of taste or smell
- ☐ Sore throat
- ☐ Nausea/vomiting
- ☐ Diarrhea
- ☐ Muscle or body aches
- ☐ Fatigue
- ☐ Headache
- ☐ New nasal congestion/stuffy or runny nose

QUICK TIP 3

Take action if someone is ill or illness is suspected.

1. **Isolate the COVID-19 positive individual from others until isolation is complete.**
2. **Identify and quarantine close contacts.**
3. **Require separation for close contacts.**
4. **Report positive case to your local Health Department.**

Individuals who start to have symptoms during their quarantine should immediately isolate and get tested.

Isolation for COVID-19 positive individuals

Isolation keeps someone who is infected with the virus away from others.

Positive individuals with symptoms should isolate for at least 10 days and 24 hours fever-free without the aid of fever reducing medications and all other symptoms have improved.

- Some individuals may be required to isolate for 20 days, if they are immunosuppressed or if they experienced severe illness.

Positive individuals without symptoms should isolate for 10 days from first positive test date.

Positive Residents should be placed on appropriate transmission based precautions in designated COVID Unit.

Positive Staff should be sent home to isolate immediately.

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COVID-19+ ISOLATION*

COVID-19 + PERSON IS CONTAGIOUS

The start of isolation is the date symptoms appeared or date of first positive COVID-19 test, if no symptoms.

Who is considered a **close contact?** Close contacts include anyone who spent 15 minutes or more at a distance of 6 feet or less with the positive person during their infectious period without full PPE.

How long is **quarantine** period for close contacts?

Quarantine keeps someone who might have been exposed to the virus away from others.

Residents/Patients: Quarantine close contacts on the observation unit for 14 days from their most recent exposure to a positive person.

Staff: Essential workers may continue to work masked and socially distanced for 14 days from their last exposure to a positive person.

All close contacts must remain masked at all times and practice social distancing until after Day 14.

Close contacts who have had a COVID-19 infection within three months of any new exposure or who have been fully vaccinated within three months of any new exposure do not need to quarantine.

QUICK TIP 4

Report COVID-19 illness to the Health Department.

Report all positive and suspected cases to the Health Department.

GWINNETT · ROCKDALE · NEWTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

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