

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Acting Commissioner



Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

ORDER

Whereas, on March 10, 2020, Governor Ned Lamont (the Governor), in response to the global pandemic of 2019 Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), declared a public health and civil preparedness emergency throughout the State of Connecticut pursuant to Sections 19a-131a and 28-9 of the Connecticut General Statutes, to remain in effect through September 9, 2020, unless sooner terminated by the Governor; and

Whereas, on March 13, 2020, the Governor, in furtherance of the authority granted by virtue of such emergency declaration, issued Executive Order No. 7A to address critical public health issues regarding COVID-19; and

Whereas, said Executive Order provides that for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency, or until such time as the Governor repeals or modifies Executive Order 7A, notwithstanding Section 19a-550(b)(12) of the Connecticut General Statutes or any other statute, regulation, local rule or ordinance or provision of law, the Commissioner of Public Health (Commissioner) is authorized to issue any and all orders restricting entrance into nursing home facilities, residential care homes or chronic disease hospitals (the Facility or Facilities) that she deems necessary to protect the health and welfare of patients, residents and staff; and

Whereas, on March 13, 2020, the Commissioner issued an Order imposing a complete ban on all visitors to such Facilities for a period of thirty days with certain stated exceptions and restrictions; and

Whereas, on April 21, 2020, the Commissioner extended the March 13, 2020 Order in its entirety, with the same exceptions and restrictions, to last for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency, unless sooner modified or terminated by a future Commissioner Order or the Governor's earlier repeal or modification of Executive Order No. 7A or termination of the public health and civil preparedness emergency; and

Whereas, on May 9, 2020, the Commissioner issued an Order requiring every Facility to regularly facilitate reasonable and practical alternative means of communication between residents and their family and other individuals denied entry to the Facility due to prior visitation restrictions within certain enumerated circumstances and requirements; and



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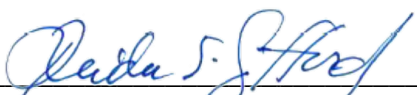
Whereas, it is important that patients who are minors within such Facilities be allowed in-person visits from parents, stepparents and legal guardians, in the manner prescribed herein.

Now, therefore, pursuant to the authority vested in me by Executive Order No. 7A, and in response to the ongoing public health crisis arising out of COVID-19, **I hereby order that, effective June 15, 2020, unless sooner modified or terminated by me by a future Order or the Governor's earlier repeal or modification of Executive Order No. 7A or termination of the public health and civil preparedness emergency, Commissioner Orders dated March 13, 2020, April 21, 2020, and May 9, 2020 are hereby modified** as follows:

1. In addition to all visitation permitted under each such previous Order, any parent, stepparent or legal guardian of a patient who is a minor in any Facility shall be permitted in-person visitation with his or her child, stepchild or ward under the conditions set forth below.
2. Any such in-person visit shall be permitted by any such visitor once per week for a minimum of twenty minutes per visit. Only one visitor shall be permitted at a time. Such in-person visits shall be in addition to window and virtual visits permitted by the May 9, 2020 Order.
3. All such visitors shall be subject to any risk screenings and use of personal protective equipment (PPE) or other infection control measures required for visitors by any previous Commissioner Orders or by the Facility. Any such PPE for visitors shall be provided by the Facility.
4. A Facility shall contact such minor resident's parents, stepparents or legal representative to decide together on such in-person visits. The Facility may establish reasonable restrictions on what days and/or what times of day such in-person visits may be scheduled and whether such in-person visits shall be inside or outside on the grounds of the Facility.

All other provisions, exceptions and restrictions of the Commissioner Orders dated March 13, 2020, April 21, 2020 and May 9, 2020 shall remain in full force and effect.

Ordered this 12th day of June 2020



Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Acting Commissioner