Nursing Home Visitation Algorithm

Prepared by the Connecticut Department of Public Health
For illustration purposes only
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Definitions

Outbreak testing trigger:

- Resident case with nursing home-onset OR
- Staff case with that staff being present in the facility during their infectious period

Outbreak testing must continue until 14 days from most recent positive case among staff and residents.

Affected unit = any unit where there could be undetected asymptomatic spread.

- Unit where a COVID-positive resident resided at time of COVID-19 onset OR
- Unit where a COVID-positive staff member worked during their infectious period

If the positive staff member worked on multiple units while infectious, any unit the staff member worked on during their infectious period is an affected unit.

Unaffected unit = any unit with no COVID-19 cases (staff or resident) identified during initial round of outbreak testing

Facility leadership should read full details in CMS and CDC guidance

- CMS Visitation Guidance: QSO-20-39-NH Revised
- CDC IPC Guidance in response to COVID-19 Vaccination: Infection Control After Vaccination
## Initiating Outbreak Testing

1. Positive staff member or facility-onset resident case
   - Suspend all indoor visitation and begin outbreak testing
   - If initial round of outbreak testing reveals...
     - **No additional cases** in other units, indoor visitation can resume for residents in unaffected areas (see Visitation Algorithm).
     - **One or more additional case** in other units, all indoor visitation should be suspended. Negative, non-quarantined residents may have outdoor visitation.

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- CMS Visitation Guidance: [QSO-20-39-NH Revised](#)
- CDC IPC Guidance in response to COVID-19 Vaccination: [Infection Control After Vaccination](#)
Visitation Algorithm During an Outbreak

Resident Visitation

Is resident on an affected unit?

Is resident on quarantine or isolation?

Visitation indoors* or outdoors

Visitation in resident’s room only

Visitation on affected unit or outdoors

No visitation until Transmission-Based Precautions are met

Visitation outdoors only

Compassionate care visit?

Is resident on an affected unit?

Visitation indoors* or outdoors

* Indoor visits should occur in a designated visitation area or in the resident’s room with no roommate present when possible.

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