

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, the Governor's Executive Order No. 7K, dated March 23, 2020, authorized the Commissioner of Public Health (the Commissioner) to temporarily waive, modify or suspend any regulatory requirements adopted by the Commissioner or any Boards or Commissions under Chapters 368a, 368d, 368v, 369 to 381a, inclusive, 382a, 383-388, inclusive, 398 to 399, inclusive, 400a, 400c and 474 of the Connecticut General Statutes as the Commissioner deems necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and to protect the public health; and

Whereas, on September 1, 2020, the Governor renewed the March 10, 2020 declaration of public health and civil preparedness emergencies and also issued new declarations of public health and civil preparedness emergencies, which new and renewed emergencies shall remain in effect until February 9, 2021, unless earlier terminated; and

Whereas, the Governor's Executive Order No. 9A, dated September 8, 2020, reissued all executive orders issued pursuant to the public health and civil preparedness emergencies declared on March 10, 2020 and renewed on September 1, 2020 that are unexpired and currently in effect as of September 8, 2020, to expire on November 9, 2020, unless earlier modified or terminated; and

Whereas, COVID-19 is a respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death; and

Whereas, the risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19 is higher for individuals who are 60 or older and for those who have chronic health conditions; and

Whereas, to ensure that chronic and convalescent nursing homes and rest homes with nursing supervision in Connecticut are prepared to combat any future outbreaks of COVID-19 among one or more residents in a facility.

Now, therefore, in an effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and to protect the public health, and in accord with the authority set forth above, unless sooner modified or terminated by me or unless the Governor sooner repeals or modifies the declared public health and civil preparedness emergencies or Executive Order Nos. 7K or 9A, I



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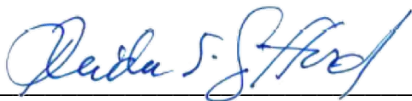


hereby order that, effective immediately, for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency:

Section 19-13-D8t(t) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies is hereby amended to require that chronic and convalescent nursing homes and rest homes with nursing supervision be prepared to combat any future outbreaks of COVID-19 among one or more residents in a facility by the addition of the following requirements:

1. Every facility shall stockpile an amount of personal protective equipment (PPE) and disinfectants including, but not limited to, N95 respirators, face shields, gloves, facemasks, gowns, and hand sanitizer to be reserved for use during an outbreak of COVID-19 among one or more residents in the facility;
2. Every facility shall collect for this reserve stockpile enough PPE and hand sanitizer to manage an outbreak of twenty percent (20%) of the facility's average daily census for a thirty (30) day period. Facilities may calculate the average daily census based on the census for the prior thirty (30) days;
3. At least once a month, each facility shall compare the inventory of the facility's reserve stockpile against the facility's most recent average daily census and adjust the supply levels of the reserve stockpile to comply with this Order;
4. At least once a month, each facility shall inspect the expiration dates of the PPE in the facility's reserve stockpile and replace expired PPE;
5. Every facility must maintain a supply of PPE and hand sanitizer adequate to support day-to-day operations separate from the reserve stockpile but may access the reserve stockpile to manage infection control during a COVID-19 outbreak among residents;
6. Every facility shall maintain the reserve stockpile for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency;
7. Every facility shall store the reserve stockpile onsite or offsite in a location that would allow ready access to the stockpile in the event of a COVID-19 outbreak
8. Every facility shall replenish the reserve stockpile as necessary whenever a facility uses PPE from the reserve stockpile; and
9. Every facility shall attest to their initial compliance with this Order to the Department of Public Health (Department) on or before Friday, October 16, 2020, upon such forms or in a format determined by the Department.

Ordered this 24th day of September 2020



Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Acting Commissioner