



**Indiana**  
Department  
of  
**Health**

## **Long Term Care** **NEWSLETTER**

**Issue 2020-61**  
**September 22, 2020**

### **CMS Update**

- QSO-20-39-NH Nursing Home Visitation – COVID-19

### **CMP Update**

- Civil Money Penalty (CMP) Reinvestment Application – In-Person Visitation Aids

### **Infection Prevention Update**

- Indiana Department of Health Infection Prevention (IP) Teams
- Infection Prevention (IP) Long-Term Care Webinar – Sept. 23

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## **QSO-20-39-NH Nursing Home Visitation – COVID-19**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has issued new guidance for visitation in nursing homes during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. The guidance provides reasonable ways a nursing home can safely facilitate in-person visitation to address the psychosocial needs of residents. The guidance includes:

- Outdoor Visitation
- Indoor Visitation
- Visitor Testing
- Compassionate Care Visits
- Required Visitation
- Access to the Long-Term Care Ombudsman
- Federal Disability Rights Laws and Protection & Advocacy (P&A) Programs
- Entry of Health Care Workers and Other Providers of Services
- Communal Activities and Dining
- Survey Considerations

CMS will approve the use of Civil Money Penalty (CMP) funds to purchase tents for outdoor visitation and /or clear dividers (e.g. Plexiglas or similar products) to create physical barriers to reduce the risk of transmission during in-person visits.

Complete information: [OSO-20-39-NH Nursing Home Visitation – COVID-19](#)

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## **Civil Money Penalty (CMP) Reinvestment Application – In-Person Visitation Aids**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) recognizes that considerations allowing for visitation in each phase of re-opening may be difficult for residents and their families, CMS has developed this application template for request for the use of CMP funds to provide nursing homes with in-person visitation aids.

Funding for tents and Plexiglas (or similar product), **are limited to a maximum of \$3,000 per facility.**

Note, when installing tents, facilities must ensure appropriate Life Safety Code (LSC) requirements found at 42 CFR 483.90 are met, unless waived under the Public Health Emergency (PHE). All applicants **must** agree to the requirements defined in the project application.

All request must be submitted on the application below to Nancy Adams - [nadams1@isdh.in.gov](mailto:nadams1@isdh.in.gov).

[Civil Money Penalty \(CMP\) Reinvestment Application Template Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) In-Person Visitation Aids Request](#)

[CMP Application for In-Person Aid Request – Frequent Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#)

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## **Indiana Department of Health Infection Prevention (IP) Teams**

Since March 2020, Indiana Department of Health has engaged our LTC regulatory surveyor (100+ team) and Jennifer Spivey as a board-certified infection preventionist (CIC) to work both onsite and remotely with every outbreak. This team has engaged by going onsite daily, then every other day, and then weekly when the outbreak is controlled (no new cases reported) and provide tele-infection control response mitigation with administrator, directors of nursing and infection preventionists on site. Our team works closely with the facility to assure it is limiting the spread by properly cohorting residents who are positive or symptomatic for COVID 19 and to validate the use of proper PPE and transmission-based precautions are in place for every resident. We have used an evidence-based toolkit from the CDC and state Department of Health guidance to assist the facilities in this outbreak, which has been modified and updated weekly as evidence changes.

The state Department of Health has added 12 new positions for further assisting this outbreak response. Since August we have hired 10 infection preventionists assigned by district with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. We have an epidemiologist added to this team as well and two openings (**District 6 and on Oct 1 District 9**) for an infection preventionist, so a total of 12 new team positions to assist in this response. This team is going to be in every building (737) within the year for pro-active infection prevention assessments, and respond onsite beginning Sept 21 with every new outbreak within three business days. They will be available to the facilities in their region to channel questions and receive remote and onsite assistance as needed.

[Infection Prevention Team](#)

[IPTeamOutbreakResponseTool\\_0922.pdf](#)

[IPTeamStateMapLTC\\_0922.pdf](#)

**Infection Prevention Teams - Mission is to provide infection control evidence based guidance**

**and education to prevent the further spread of COVID 19 and multi-drug resistant organisms (MDROs) in Indiana’s Long Term Care (LTC) and assigned congregate care settings.**

Infection Prevention Program Manager Jennifer Spivey RN, FAPIC, CIC – [jspivey@isdh.in.gov](mailto:jspivey@isdh.in.gov)

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**Infection Prevention (IP) Long-Term Care Webinar – Sept. 23**

The Long-Term Care Infection Prevention Webinar will be 1 – 2 p.m. (EST) Sept. 23, hosted by Infection Prevention Program Manager Jennifer Spivey. Registration is not required.

**Meeting information:**

Meeting number (access code): 172 148 2901

Meeting password: ugHMYxQ7x33

[Join meeting](#)

**Tap to join from a mobile device (attendees only)**

[+1-415-655-0001,1721482901##](tel:+1-415-655-0001,1721482901##) US Toll

**Join by phone**

+1-415-655-0001 US Toll

**Join from a video system or application**

Dial 1721482901@indiana.webex.com

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

**Join using Microsoft Lync or Microsoft Skype for Business**

Dial 1721482901.indiana@lync.webex.com