# Pandemic COVID-19 (Coronavirus), Infection Control Measures During

Policy Statement

When pandemic COVID-19 is detected in the geographic region of the facility (within 60 miles), aggressive infection control measures will be implemented to prevent introduction of the virus to residents, staff and visitors.

Policy Interpretation and Implementation

1. Due to the increased risk of mortality from COVID-19 in the frail elderly, infection control measures to prevent the introduction or spread of the COVID-19 virus is a priority.
2. Facility will implement COVID-19 Tier 1-4 Visitor and Recreation Guidelines.
3. Early prevention of COVID-19 outbreak consists of the following measures:
4. Training clinical staff in the modes of transmission of the COVID-19 virus;
5. Training residents, families and non-clinical staff on the symptoms of COVID-19 and standard infection control precautions (e.g., handwashing, respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette, etc.);
6. Place signs at all entrances;
7. Early detection of COVID-19 cases in the facility;
8. Isolation of infected residents in their rooms or homes;
9. Use of appropriate barrier precautions during resident care; and
10. Visitors will be restricted as needed to decrease the risk of infection to our veterans;
11. Visitors will be screened upon entry into the facility;
12. Visiting hours will be modified to 0800-1700 daily determined by facility
* If pandemic COVID-19 is detected in the geographic region of the facility, the following measures will be taken to prevent or delay the introduction of the virus to the facility:
1. Display signs and/or posters (in appropriate languages) at the entry to the facility restricting entry by any persons who have been exposed to or have symptoms of pandemic COVID-19;
2. Train staff to visually and verbally screen visitors at facility entry points for respiratory symptoms of pandemic COVID-19;
3. Provide a telephone number for family and visitors to call for information regarding prevention and control strategies for pandemic COVID-19;
4. Screen all employees for COVID-19-like illness before coming on duty and send any symptomatic employees home;
5. Refer to Pandemic COVID-19 Plan for employee absences and contact Medical Director, Clinical consultants and; and
6. Increase resident surveillance for COVID-19-like illness. Notify local or state health department if a case is suspected.

If an outbreak of pandemic COVID-19 occurs within the facility, strict adherence to standard and transmission-based precautions and other infection control measures will be implemented according to the most current CDC recommendations for pandemic COVID-19.