

LeadingAge Oregon Member PPE Questions

August 4, 2020

1. Hoping that it has been clarified whether face shields and full PPE worn at all times are a recommendation or a requirement. We currently only use face shields and full PPE if a resident just moved into area or has admitted for rehab. I don't think the state understands how many isolation gowns a facility the size of ours would use in one day if staff had to use one every time care was provided for a resident.
2. Did we get a confirmed YES on the gowns? It is my understanding that wearing gowns from room to room is not standard proper procedure.
3. I have a question on gowns? Do staff have to wear them? We are COVID negative.
4. Is the use of the FULL PPE required just when in contact with the residents?
5. I currently have an amazing staff that is a housekeeper, she has vision problems and wearing the shield is an issue. Different style of goggles my help, but not likely. She is forced to give her notice if we are not able to work with her disability. She is a loyal staff, she LOVES working here. I want to advocate for her rights as an employee and reasonably accommodate her needs, but what does this look like?
6. Letter sent from DHS was a little confusing using words like "recommending shield" "should" not "required"
7. Full PPE for the 14 days with an admit with a negative test; even though the CDC has changed the criteria for transmission based precautions?
8. Full PPE includes N95?
9. In the full PPE context what about the use of N95 versus surgical mask with full PPE scenario. Would these quarantined folks be considered PUIs where an N95 would be required?
10. "Full PPE across the board" suggests PPE every day for all residents? This is not feasible in terms of PPE supplies ongoing.
11. Does our staff that does not do direct care do have to be in full PPE? IE: Housekeeper, cook, office staff?
12. Is full PPE only for direct care staff? What about staff delivering meals, mail?
13. Is the full PPE for the entire shift?
14. Obtaining PPE is very difficult and being on allocation makes it almost impossible to obtain that much PPE. The prices of the PPE has also tripled and we are already financially stressed.
15. Clarify residents can be encouraged but not required to wear the PPE.
16. Are facilities providing new masks/PPE daily to staff?

17. Full PPE in both ALF and SNF, correct? Which would include gown, gloves, mask, and shield for all staff at all times. Just to clarify. And you state N95 is optimal but I want to clarify that surgical masks or the KN95 that are not respirator masks can be used with a shield.
18. What does highly encouraged mean and when does it cross the line into a possible violation of the residents right to refuse?
19. Can we use surgical masks with the goggles or only with shields?
20. If it is suggested to use an N95 and face shield, there is a concern droplet transmission is occurring, so a gown would need to be included. Wearing only an N95 and face shield without a gown makes no sense in infection control.
21. I thought the transmittal stated that you would wear either goggles or shields, though shields are preferred in the transmittal or did I read that incorrectly?
22. With a mask for both goggles or shields.
23. What if we do not have enough face shields or goggles?
24. Is donning and doffing required for each individual resident when providing services?
25. Is the state or FEMA going to provide the necessary full PPE? We operate in crisis contingency because there is not enough PPE.
26. We were just told by a surveyor that PPE could not be worn in the hallway. They stated they would not cite only because there was not a positive infection