

# RESIDENT MANAGEMENT

Date 10.25.22

Rev: Date

Once an outbreak is identified, consider implementing enhanced control measures to reduce the risk for ongoing transmission. Some resident management measures to consider include:

- Ensure that all individuals entering the facility wear a mask. Encourage the use of well-fitting masks that cover the nose and mouth. The [Knot and Tuck technique](#) is a helpful resource to share with resident visitors to support effective masking while in the building. A video demonstrating this can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GzTAZDsNBe0>
- Screen residents for COVID signs and symptoms each shift. Include monitoring of oxygen saturation (pulse oximetry or SaO<sub>2</sub> monitoring) as this can be an important early indicator for the onset of pneumonia. Residents with cognitive and behavioral health conditions can present with subtle changes in condition, so changes in condition such as acting out, changes in eating and drinking, and increased sleeping or fatigue should also be considered.
- Should a resident become symptomatic, place them on [Aerosol Contact Precautions](#) in a private room and test for COVID-19.
- Encourage residents to remain in their rooms as much as possible until two weeks have passed since the last positive case. Where possible, consider turning off TV or other entertainment attractions in common spaces and provide in-room distractions such as TV, music, puzzles, or other activities of interest.
- Encourage and support residents to return to their rooms when sitting in common spaces.
- Continue to encourage masking for residents when they come out of their rooms, especially during an outbreak.
  - Instruct residents in how to ensure their mask fits properly.
  - Frequent reminders, reinforcement, and redirection are often necessary, but these efforts can be very effective in improving resident acceptance of masking and normalizing their use.
  - Patterned, themed, or colored masks can be an attractive option to encourage mask use for some residents.
  - N95 masks should not be provided to residents. K95s may be an acceptable option for residents.
- Include residents in hand hygiene opportunities. Assist them to perform soap and water Hand Hygiene after toileting. Encourage and support Alcohol Based Hand Rub before smoking, eating or drinking, and when wandering results in increased contact with environmental surfaces.
- Modify resident activities to eliminate the use of difficult to disinfect items such as puzzles, games or other shared items. Alternatively, provide items to residents for use in their rooms. When longer needed, place used items in quarantine for 5 days prior to use by another resident.

