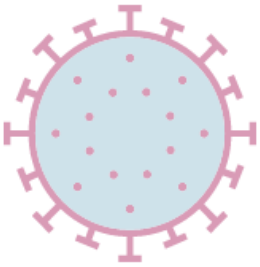
TN Department of Health

COVID-19

Guidance for Group Care Settings

Prevent the introduction of respiratory germs INTO your facility:



- Visitors should be limited
- If visitation is permitted, post signs instructing visitors, employees, and other persons not to visit if they have any symptoms – **fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea**
- Visitors, employees, or any other persons seeking entrance who have symptoms should be denied entry
- Ensure sick leave policies allow employees to stay home if they have fever or are sick
- Assess for client illness upon intake to the facility. Immediately mask any ill individuals

Prevent the spread of respiratory germs WITHIN your facility:

- Provide daily updates and reminders to employees
- Monitor employees and clients for symptoms of illness
- Support hand and respiratory hygiene, including cough etiquette, by clients, visitors, and employees
- Ensure employees are properly trained on infection control procedures
- Maintain appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) supplies and practice PPE conservation (PPE includes face masks, eye protection, gowns and gloves)
- Isolate persons that are ill and mask them immediately. PPE must be worn by those caring for ill individuals
- Designate "clean teams" that do not interact with ill individuals
- Consistently disinfect high traffic areas or known contaminated areas
- Set up stations within the facility where all people can easily access hand sanitizers

Prevent the spread of respiratory germs AMONG facilities:

- Notify health care facilities prior to transferring a client with a fever, cough or shortness of breath, including suspected or confirmed COVID-19
- Report any possible COVID-19 illness in employees or clients to your local health department

For the most up-to-date information:

- Guidance may change as we learn more. Please check http://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov for the most up-to-date guidance about COVID-19
- Learn more at CDC's COVID-19 website: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov

July 23, 2020