

# COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR POSITIVE CASES

## Long Term Care Facilities

### Key Considerations:

- Provision of the appropriate level of medical care
- Protecting healthcare personnel and non-COVID-19 patients accessing healthcare from infection
- Preparing for a potential surge in patients with respiratory infection
- Preparing for potential personal protective equipment supply and staff shortages

### Key Goals for Long Term Care Facilities in Response to COVID-19:

- Reduce morbidity and mortality
- Minimize disease transmission
- Protect Healthcare personnel
- Preserve healthcare system functionality

### Actions to Take Now if a Resident or HCP Tests Positive for COVID-19 in Your Facility:

#### Healthcare Personnel Monitoring and Restrictions

- Implement universal use of facemask for HCP while in the facility.
- Consider having HCP wear all recommended PPE (gown, gloves, eye protection, N95 respirator or, if not available, a facemask) for the care of all residents, regardless of presence of symptoms. Implement protocols for extended use of eye protection and facemasks.

#### Resident Monitoring and Restrictions

- Encourage residents to remain in their room. If there are cases in the facility, restrict residents (to the extent possible) to their rooms except for medically necessary purposes.
- If they leave their room, residents should wear a facemask, perform hand hygiene, limit their movement in the facility, and perform social distancing (stay at least 6 feet away from others).
- Implement protocols for cohorting ill residents with dedicated HCP.

#### Visitor Restrictions

- Visitors and healthcare personnel (HCP) are the most likely sources of introduction of COVID-19 into a facility. CDC recommends aggressive visitor restrictions and enforcing sick leave policies for ill HCP.

For additional recommendations, review the CDC's *Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) or Persons Under Investigation for COVID-19 in Healthcare Settings*.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/infection-control/control-recommendations.html>