

# CMS GUIDANCE FOR COVID

## 9 Core Principles

### 1 SCREENING ALL

Screen everyone entering with temperature checks and sign/symptom checks. Deny entry as needed.



### 2 PROPER HAND HYGIENE

Wash hands regularly and use alcohol-based hand rub.



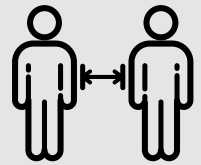
### 3 ALL FACES COVERED

Mandate face coverings or mask that include both nose and mouth.



### 4 6-FT SOCIAL DISTANCE

Maintain at least 6-feet distance between all persons.



### 5 INSTRUCTIONAL SIGNAGE

Educate visitors on signs/symptoms, infection control, and facility requirements (i.e., masks, hand hygiene).



### 6 SURFACE DISINFECTION

Clean and disinfect high frequency touched surfaces often and designated visitation areas after every visit.



### 7 STAFF USE OF PPE

Appropriate staff use of PPE.



### 8 RESIDENT COHORTING

Create separate areas dedicated to COVID-19 care.



### 9 TESTING ALL

Test all residents and staff for COVID-19 per the guidance in CMS August 26, 2020 memo (see [QSO-20-38-NH](#)). Testing visitors is also encouraged with regular visitors prioritized.



## ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE

Schedule and limit visitors, as well as movement within facility.

Outdoor visitation preferred; inside is ok for compassionate care reasons

Compassionate care does not just refer to end-of-life and may include residents:

- Recently-admitted/struggling with transition
- Grieving recent friend/family death
- Needing encouragement to eat/drink
- Experiencing emotional distress, seldom speaking or frequently crying