



California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Infection Prevention Webinar

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

Upcoming Calls



- CDPH Tuesday, 8 a.m., All-Facilities Calls:
 - Call in: **1.844.721.7239**
 - Access code: **799 3227**
- CDPH Wednesday, 3 p.m., SNF Infection Prevention (IP) Webinars:
 - Register at: hsag.com/cdph-ip-webinars
 - Recordings and slides are posted at registration site.
- CDPH Thursday, 12 noon, SNF IP Phone Calls:
 - Dial-in: **1.877.226.8163**
 - Access Code: **513 711**

Call notes for 2021 will be posted soon at the CDPH skilled nursing facility (SNF) infection prevention (IP) education website:

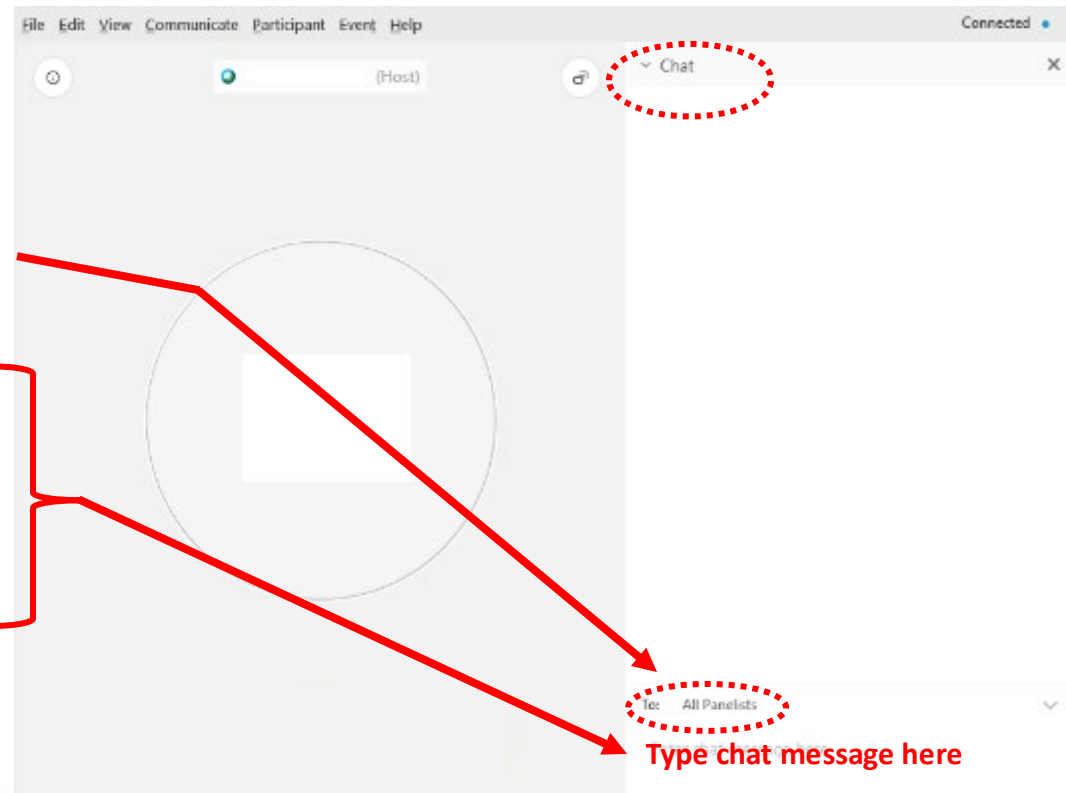
cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/Pages/SNFeducation.aspx

How to Find the Chat Button and Submit a Question

1. To submit a question, click on the **Chat Button** located in the bottom right corner of your Webex window.



2. The **Chat** panel will open on your right.



3. Indicate that you want to send a question to **All Panelists**.

4. Type your question in the box at the bottom of the panel.

5. Press **Enter** on your keyboard to submit your question.

To connect to the audio portion of the webinar, please have Webex call you.

Please Take 5 Seconds and Let Us Know



We want this call to be meaningful to you, so we need your input.

At the end of the webinar, you will be asked **one question** to determine if this call equipped your organization to manage COVID-19 and/or your infection prevention practices.

Agenda



- CDPH Update
- Testing Task Force Update
- Survey Process (AFL 20-69.1)
- Updated Visitation Guidance (AFL 20-22.5)
- Guidance on Facemasks and Face Shields
- Q&A



CDPH Update

AFL 20-69.1: Survey Priorities during the COVID-19 Pandemic

- <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-20-69.aspx>
- Beginning April 1, 2021, CDPH will transition from conducting mitigation surveys to resuming relicensing and recertification surveys.



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State Public Health Officer & Director

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health



GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor

AFL 20-69.1

March 1, 2021

TO: All Facilities

SUBJECT: Survey Priorities during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic
(This AFL supersedes AFL 20-69)

AUTHORITY: [Health and Safety Code section 1278](#)

All Facilities Letter (AFL) Summary

- This AFL describes the surveys that the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) will conduct during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- This revision is being updated to announce the discontinuing of Mitigation Surveys and the resumption of relicensing and recertification surveys in Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) April 1, 2021.



Updated Visitation Guidance

CDC Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People in Non-Healthcare Settings

- Updated March 8, 2021 <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>
- Fully vaccinated people can:
 - Visit with fully vaccinated people indoors without masks
 - Visit indoors with low-risk unvaccinated people from a single household without wearing masks or physical distancing
 - Refrain from quarantine following exposure if asymptomatic
- For now, fully vaccinated people should continue to:
 - Wear masks and practice physical distancing in public or when visiting unvaccinated people from multiple households.
 - Avoid medium- and large-sized in-person gatherings

AFL 20-22.6: Guidance for Limiting the Transmission of COVID-19 in Long-Term Care

- <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-20-22.aspx>
- Updates CDPH visitation guidance, including:
 - Expanded opportunities for indoor, in-room visitation and physical touch
 - Infection control measures for fully vaccinated residents and visitors



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AFL 20-22.6

March 8, 2021

TO: Long-Term Care Facilities

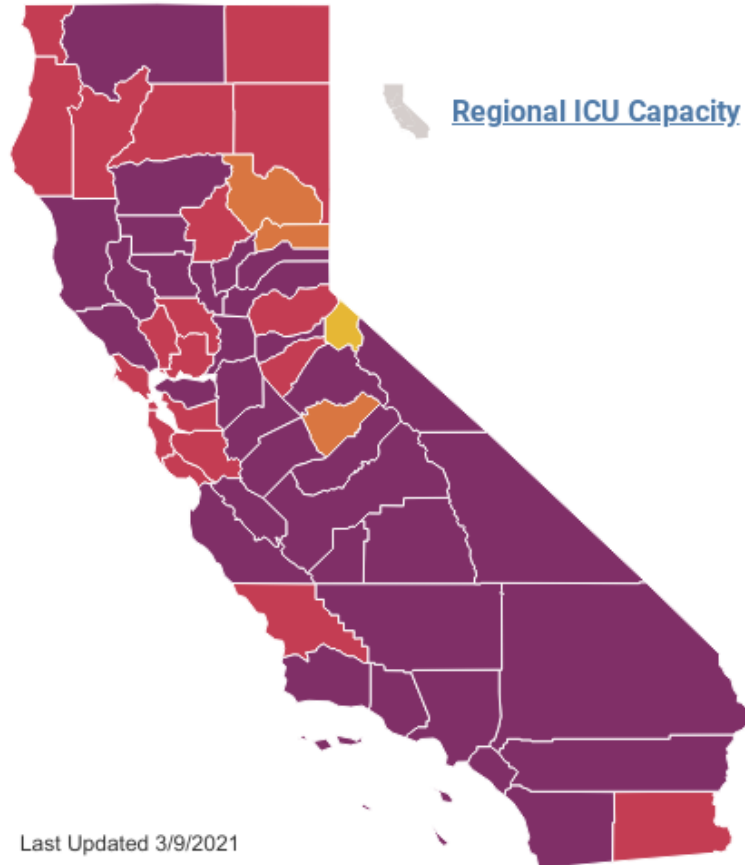
SUBJECT: Guidance for Limiting the Transmission of COVID-19 in Long-Term Care Facilities
(This AFL supersedes guidance provided in AFL 20-22.5)

California Blueprint for a Safer Economy

<https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/>

Current tier assignments as of March 9, 2021

Data is reviewed weekly and tiers are updated on Tuesdays. At a minimum, counties must remain in a tier for at least 3 weeks before moving to a less restrictive tier. Counties must meet the next tier's criteria for two consecutive weeks to move to a less restrictive tier.



STATEWIDE METRICS

8.1 New COVID-19 positive cases per day per 100K

2.8% Positivity rate (7-day average)

26.7% ICU availability

Find a county

Highlight County

Click on the map for updated metrics

COUNTY RISK LEVELS

Risk Level	Counties	Population	Percentage
Widespread	34	32,103,924	80.0%
Substantial	20	7,984,212	19.9%
Moderate	3	39,907	0.1%
Minimal	1	1,117	0.0%

Indoor, In-Room Visitation

- Indoor, in-room visitation is allowed for:
 - Fully vaccinated residents in green or yellow zones regardless of county tier (including Tier 1, Purple)
 - Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated residents in green or yellow zones for facilities in Tier 2 (Red), 3 (Orange), or 4 (Yellow) counties

WIDESPREAD

Many non-essential indoor business operations are closed

More than 8.0%

Positive tests

SUBSTANTIAL

Some non-essential indoor business operations are closed

5.0 – 8.0%

Positive tests

MODERATE

Some indoor business operations are open with modifications

2.0 – 4.9%

Positive tests

MINIMAL

Most indoor business operations are open with modifications

Less than 2.0%

Positive tests

Indoor Visitation Conditions

- Visitors must wear appropriate facial coverings.
- Full PPE must be worn for yellow zone visitation.
- Brief physical contact (hug, holding hands) is allowed for fully vaccinated visitors of fully vaccinated residents
- Visits for residents with roommates should be conducted in a separate space or with the roommate not present (if possible), regardless of roommate vaccination status.
- Visitors in Tier 1 (Purple) counties for fully vaccinated residents must test negative on a POC antigen or PCR test taken within the prior two days, regardless of visitor's vaccination status.

Outdoor and Large Indoor Communal Space Visitation Requirements

- Outdoor and communal space visitation must continue for all residents, regardless of vaccination status or the county tier.
- Outdoor visitation is preferred if feasible.
- Facilities need to ensure physical distancing, use of face coverings, hand hygiene and other infection control guidelines are followed.
- Fully vaccinated visitors of fully vaccinated residents may have brief physical contact with the resident (hug, holding hands).



Communal Dining, Group Activities & Non-Essential Services May Resume

- Residents in the green zone may participate in group activities and eat in the same room with physical distancing, masks when not eating or drinking, and proper hand hygiene.
 - Consider defining groups of residents that consistently participate together to minimize exposure
- Non-essential personnel/contractors (barbers, manicurists, pedicurists) may enter facility to provide services, and must:
 - Comply with testing and universal facemask use
 - Provide services outdoors, if feasible, or indoors in well-ventilated area with social distancing between residents

Exception to Visitation Restrictions

- Regardless of county tier and vaccination status the following are exempt from visitation restrictions and may have access to a resident in any zone:
 - Healthcare workers
 - Surveyors
 - Ombudsman
 - Nursing students
 - Compassionate care visitation
 - Legal matters
 - Protection & advocacy programs
 - Individuals authorized by federal disability rights laws

CDPH Visitation Fact Sheet

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/CDPH%20Document%20Library/AFL-20-22-Attachment-01.pdf>



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Visitation Fact Sheet - Skilled Nursing Facilities (nursing homes)

[CDPH All Facilities Letter 20-22.6](#) authorizes skilled nursing facilities (SNFs) to temporarily modify their facility's visitation policies in accordance with CMS and CDC COVID-19 guidance. Given progress with COVID-19 vaccination of SNF residents and healthcare personnel, CDPH recommends a cautious and gradual lifting of certain restrictions, while remaining vigilant for breakthrough infections and transmission in SNFs through ongoing surveillance and testing. This fact sheet provides a general overview of CDPH's visitation recommendations. Please refer to [AFL 20-22.6](#) for more detailed information.

Note: Visitation rules are subject to county public health orders, which may be more restrictive.

Outdoor Visitation	Indoor Visitation	General Visitation Rules
<p>All facilities shall permit outdoor visitation.</p> <p>Outdoor visitation is preferred and should be offered unless the resident cannot leave the facility, or outdoor visitation is not possible due to precipitation, outdoor temperatures, poor air quality, or other issues.</p> <p>Facilities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate scheduled visits on the facility premises with 6-feet or more physical distancing, use of face coverings by both residents and visitors, and staff monitoring of infection control guidelines Limit the number and size of visits occurring simultaneously to support safe infection prevention actions If outdoor visitation is not possible due to inclement weather, poor air quality, or other issues, accommodate visitation in large communal indoor spaces (e.g., lobby, cafeteria, activity room, or physical therapy room where 6 feet of distancing is possible) 	<p>Facilities shall allow indoor, in-room visitation for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fully vaccinated residents, regardless of the county tier under Blueprint for a Safer Economy. Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated residents in "green" (unexposed or recovered) or "yellow" (exposed or observation status) area for facilities in counties under Tier 2 (Red), Tier 3 (Orange), or Tier 4 (Yellow) in the Blueprint. <p>Indoor visitation shall meet the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visitors in Tier 1 (Purple) counties for fully vaccinated residents must test negative on a POC antigen or PCR test on a sample taken within the prior two days, regardless of the visitor's vaccination status. All visitors and residents should wear appropriate facial covering during their visit and should maintain 6-feet or more of physical distancing. Fully vaccinated visitors of fully vaccinated residents may have brief, limited physical contact with the resident (e.g., a brief hug, holding hands). Visits for residents who share a room should be conducted in a separate indoor space, or with the roommate not present in the room (if possible), regardless of the roommate's vaccination status. Full personal protective equipment (PPE) must be worn for yellow zone visitation. 	<p>Facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must adhere to the CMS core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention (PDF) at all times Must enable visits to be conducted with an adequate degree of privacy Should schedule visits at times convenient to visitors <p>Any visitor entering the facility, regardless of their vaccination status, shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Be screened for fever and COVID-19 symptoms, wear appropriate facial covering, and perform hand hygiene when in the facility If PPE is required for contact with the resident due to quarantine or COVID positive isolation status (including fully vaccinated visitors), it must be donned and doffed according to instruction by HCP If a visitor has COVID-19 symptoms or has been in close contact with a confirmed positive case, they must reschedule their visit <p>Support person visitors are encouraged (but not mandated), regardless of COVID-19 outbreaks, for residents with physical, intellectual, developmental disabilities and/or cognitive impairments.</p> <p>Specific individuals (e.g., healthcare workers, compassionate care visitors, Ombudsman) are exempt from a facility's visitation restrictions. See AFL 20-22.6 for the full list of visitation exceptions.</p>



Testing Task Force Update

Monoclonal Antibodies

- **Question:** Does CDPH require policies and procedures for SNFs that are planning to administer monoclonal antibodies in the SNF?
- **Answer:** The California Department of Health Care Services' COVID Therapeutics Task Force does not have official policies and procedures. Review the following fact sheets:
 - [Bamlanivimab plus Etesevimab EUA Fact Sheet for Providers](#)
 - [Bamlanivimab EUA Fact Sheet for Providers](#)
 - [Casirivimab/Imdevimab EUA Fact Sheet for Providers](#)
 - [OWS Therapeutics: Monoclonal Antibody Playbook \(phe.gov\)](#)
- The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Assistance Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) has additional resources at:
 - <https://www.phe.gov/emergency/events/COVID19/therapeutics/Pages/Distribution.aspx>



Guidance on Facemasks and Face Shields


Double Masking and Face Shield Considerations

- Double masking is not approved for HCP wearing an N95 respirator. Additional masks can impact the respirator's seal.
- Double masking is reasonable for source control in the green zone and non-patient care areas. N95s are not required in the green zone.
- Eyewear (face shields, goggles) are required to be worn in patient care areas, including the green, red and yellow zones. For example:
 - In the green zone, surgical masks for source control are sufficient with the face shield.
 - In the yellow and red zones, N95 respirators should be worn as PPE with the face shield.
- Face shields and goggles are not necessary in non-patient care areas (kitchen, nurses' station, reception area)

Suspected Recurrent Infections Among Residents of a SNF During a Second COVID-19 Outbreak

https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/70/wr/mm7008a3.htm?s_cid=mm7008a3_w

- Five SNF residents received positive test results in two separate COVID-19 outbreaks separated by 3 months.
- Severity of disease during second outbreak was worse
- **Implications:**
 - SNFs should use strategies to reduce the risk for COVID-19 transmission among all residents.
 - Vaccinations are particularly important to protect residents.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives. Protecting People™

[A-Z Index](#)

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Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

Suspected Recurrent SARS-CoV-2 Infections Among Residents of a Skilled Nursing Facility During a Second COVID-19 Outbreak — Kentucky, July–November 2020

Weekly / February 26, 2021 / 70(8);273–277

Questions?





This material was prepared by Health Services Advisory Group, the Medicare Quality Innovation Network-Quality Improvement Organization for Arizona and California, under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The contents presented do not necessarily reflect CMS policy.

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