

Session 1: Prevention and Stopping the Spread of COVID-19 in Nursing Homes

<p>Key Takeaways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention and Limiting Spread depends on Screening of Staff, Residents and Visitors. • Have a Testing plan when there is suspicion of infection and knowing what measures to put into place while results are pending is important. • Having a clear Follow-up plan for each resident when results are back will promote consistent care practices and reduce spread. <p>Identification of opportunities allows teams to improve the care and close gaps that may contribute to COVID-19 spread. The following question set can be used to facilitate discussions and unearth opportunities across and within key members of the team. Please consider them in your next huddle or team meeting.</p>	
Questions by Content	
Screening	<p>Who is responsible for screening of staff, residents, contractors/vendors, and visitors?</p> <p>Does the facility have appropriate tools to perform and document the task?</p> <p>Is there a clear outline for screening procedures that is known by all relevant staff?</p> <p>Do staff know who to contact when someone fails the screening?</p>
Testing	<p>Who (what role) is responsible for tracking of tests pending and results?</p> <p>What is the process for documenting that a resident is being tested for COVID-19?</p> <p>Are staff aware of the precautions needed to care for a resident who is currently being tested/test results are pending?</p>
Follow-Up Plan	<p>Who is responsible for ensuring proper follow-up of test results? Include room location (cohorting), clinical care and symptom management, communication.</p> <p>What are added precautions when a resident is COVID-19 positive?</p>
Improvement Concepts	<p>Are the processes for Screening, Testing and Follow-up consistent, reliable and clear for all relevant stakeholders?</p>
Critical Questions for Leadership	
	<p>How is the facility managing real or potential staff shortages?</p> <p>How are staff supported when being told they have a positive COVID-19 test result and must remain off work for a period of time?</p> <p>Are staff 'return to work' policies written out and accessible to all staff?</p> <p>What to do about personnel exposed to a close contact who is COVID-19 positive? What is the procedure for testing, quarantine or other next steps?</p>
Key Concepts by Stakeholder Group	
What do Medical Directors Need to know and discuss with the team?	<p>When a resident is suspected of COVID-19 and may need testing and with what testing frequency</p> <p>In partnership with DON and administrator, make decisions on resident placement (Isolation, Quarantine, COVID-19 unit)</p> <p>Clinical management plan for asymptomatic or mild cases of COVID-19</p> <p>How to streamline resident care plan to minimize risk of spread within the center</p>
What do DONs need to know?	<p>That there is a staffing plan</p> <p>Bed management/cohorting plan for Isolation, Quarantine and COVID-19 positive residents</p> <p>Enhanced Infection Prevention Plan for the center</p> <p>Demonstrate an ability to procure and oversee proper use of appropriate equipment and supplies</p> <p>Communicate with Staff – Alert staff/families or care partners about screening, testing and results</p>
What Do Nurses/CNAs need to know?	<p>What are key COVID-19 symptoms and appropriate responses?</p> <p>Who is screening residents? Where is screening documented?</p> <p>What is the center's signage plan for alerting staff and visitors to all aspects of COVID-19 infection prevention and management?</p> <p>How to appropriately conduct tests (state specific)</p> <p>How to use PPE appropriately</p>
What does the interdisciplinary team need to know?	<p>What are the key COVID-19 signs and symptoms and appropriate responses?</p> <p>How do COVID-19 workflows impact each staff person's role?</p> <p>Appropriate use of PPE while engaging with residents and other staff</p> <p>Understand any center specific signage and how to engage with residents and others</p>