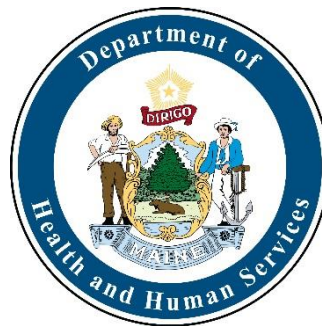


# COVID-19 Learning & Education Updates

**Carrie Rice, RN, BSN, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>, CIC**  
**Healthcare Epidemiology Improvement Coordinator**

07/01/2020



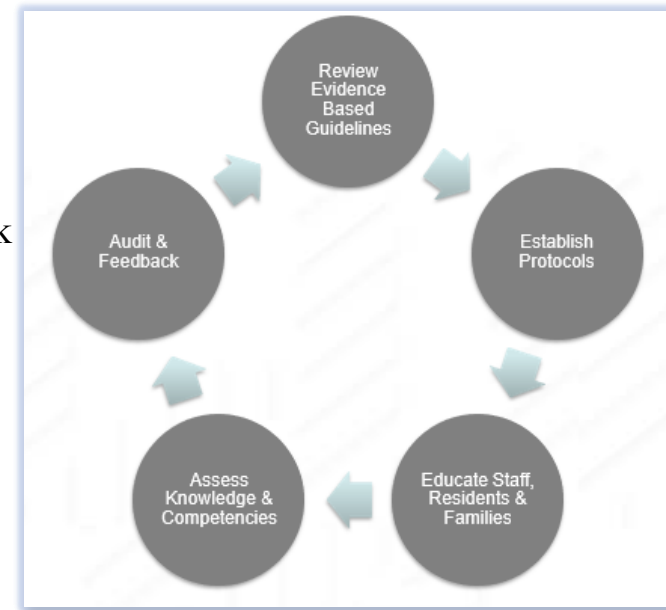
# Berkshire Healthcare Keys to Success

## Collaboration and Partnership:

- Partnered with multiple groups/organizations in order to provide Infection Prevention and Control expertise to facilities.
  - Local, Regional, Public Health, and Contracted Services
  - ICAR Assessments
  - Welcomed consultative visits
- Sharing of developed guidelines

## Staffing and Staff Support:

- Retired Nurses & staffing portal to identify and manage candidates
- Utilized the CMS waiver to support staffing ranks
- Adjusted onboarding to efficiently cover salient points and fast track to patient care
- Employee emotional support (*EAP programs, Positive Messages, Memorial services, etc.*)
- Education: COVID-19 facts, Prevention (*hand hygiene, PPE use, return to work, etc.*)
- Universal Masking
- Screening of phone calls before sending to nursing unit and electronic bed boards



# Berkshire Healthcare Keys to Success

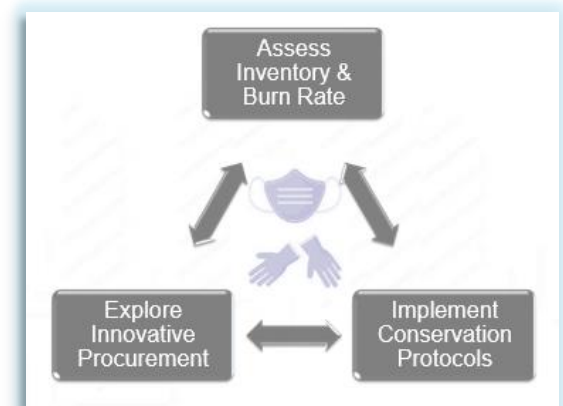


## Communication

- Culture of transparency and engagement was critical to navigating the situation
- Daily Calls (7 days) with leadership
- Open communication for status updates/changes with staff, residents, families, and key stakeholders in multiple formats

## Personal Protective Equipment

- Delegated a leader to partner with purchasing
- Daily monitoring of inventory
- Defined process for PPE use in presence of shortages (*including work flow impacts to conservation strategies*)
- Education/training, observation, and competency



# Berkshire Healthcare Keys to Success

## Resident Care

- Discontinuation of nebulizers (*partnership with Medical Director and Pharmacy*)
- Every 4 hour O<sub>2</sub> monitoring
- Every hour nurse charting
- Continual updating of symptom screening
- Looked at stock of IV NS and IV D5
- Updated EHR to accommodate COVID-19 assessment (*including psychosocial*)
- Considered holding non-essential medications to improve staff workflow
- Discussions with Residents and Families about wishes for life sustaining treatment
- Discussion with Funeral Directors in advance
- Clinical presentation frequently witnessed:
  - Confusion or change in mental status, poor oral intake, weakness, muscle aches, headache, sore throat, runny nose, falls, diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting
  - Most often no signs or symptoms
- Avoided giving morphine or other sedating medications unless indicated for signs of symptomatic respiratory distress



## Other

- Identified point person to review new guidelines/recommendations

Original Presentation



BHCS - COVID-19  
Getting to Gold 06.30

# New CDC Education

## Mini Webinar Series — COVID-19 Prevention Training for Long-Term Care Staff

COVID-19 cases have been reported in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and multiple U.S. territories, and many of these areas have wide-spread community transmission. Because of the high risk of spread once COVID-19 enters a long-term care facility, fast action is needed to protect residents, families, and staff from serious illness, complications, and death.

CDC has launched a **Long-Term Care Frontline Staff Training Webinar Series** for staff who care for vulnerable residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities. These five short webinars review basic infection prevention steps essential for preventing the spread of COVID-19:



### Sparkling Surfaces (7 min) - <https://bit.ly/2yulKq2>

- Keep long-term care and nursing home residents healthy by knowing how and when to clean and disinfect environmental and equipment surfaces.



### Clean Hands (7 min) - <https://bit.ly/35JzNgH>

- Keep long-term care and nursing home residents healthy by knowing how and when to perform hand hygiene as part of preventing the spread of COVID-19.



### Closely Monitor Residents (7 min) - <https://bit.ly/3bhodKL>

- Learn the importance of recognizing new or worsening infections quickly in long-term care facilities and nursing homes. The earlier sick residents can be identified, the faster COVID-19 can be prevented from spreading throughout the facility.



### Keep COVID-19 Out! (6 min) - <https://bit.ly/2SLKzhe>

- Learn what staff, vendors, and consultants should do to protect residents and keep COVID-19 out of the facility. Understand the importance of wearing facemasks and cloth face coverings appropriately.



### PPE Lessons (12 min) - <https://bit.ly/2zn9yjQ>

- Learn what personal protective equipment (PPE) should be used in long-term care facilities and nursing homes as well as when and how to use PPE correctly to help protect yourself and residents from COVID-19.

These webinars are open access. You are free to use them in any communication channels and are encouraged to share widely with frontline staff:

- Access the complete series on the COVID-19 Long-term Care webpage: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/long-term-care.html>
- You can also watch the videos on CDC's YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/CDCStreamingHealth>



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)

## Intended for Frontline Staff Training



Flyer for Mini Webinar Series- COVI

# Questions?

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