



Memory Care Unit Mitigation Measures Checklist

10/30/2020

Preventing COVID-19 Illness

Persons living with dementia may have an impaired ability to follow or recall instructions, and may need reminders regarding:

- Consider the use of a face mask.
 - Residents with early dementia or other cognitive disabilities may require assistance with wearing a mask or may be unable to comply with wearing one properly. Cloth face coverings should not be used for anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- Consider a supervised hand hygiene schedule.
 - Wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds.
 - Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Encourage covering coughs and sneezes.
 - Use a tissue to cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash and hands washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
 - If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, not your hands.
 - Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Encourage social distancing and refrain from sharing items.
 - Encourage physical distancing of 6 feet or more.
 - Stay in a specific area.
 - Continue to provide structured activities in the resident's room.

Cleaning and Disinfection

- Develop a schedule for increased routine cleaning and disinfection.
 - Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces (e.g., door handles, doorknobs, and other handles, such as handles for wheelchairs, walkers or other mobility equipment, side rails, over-bed tables, nightstands, call lights, remote control devices, computer keyboards, telephones, toilets, sinks, and other bathroom fixtures).
 - Ensure safe and correct use of cleaners and disinfectants. Use the appropriate contact times as indicated on the product's label. Refer to Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) N list: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2-covid-19>

- ❑ Dedicate medical equipment. All non-dedicated, non-disposable medical equipment used for resident care should be cleaned and disinfected according to manufacturer's instructions and facility policies.
- ❑ Ensure environmental cleaning and disinfection procedures are followed regularly. Guidelines for Environmental Infection Control in Health-Care Facilities: https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/pdf/guidelines/environmental-guidelines-P.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2pFN9R0k_Mi1hBtJ3V38CGz5PGrGxaUC6fY7XPG1tPaVICMwTQhhzyAl4

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- ❑ Consider using all recommended COVID-19 PPE for **all** resident encounters on the memory care unit, which includes face mask, eye protection, gloves, and gown. A fit-test N95 respirator or equivalent should be used when performing aerosol-generating procedures, which include things like endotracheal intubation and nebulizer treatment.
- ❑ Follow CDC Optimizing Supply of PPE during shortages: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/index.html>
- ❑ Ensure PPE is used correctly. Using Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/using-ppe.html>

Cohorting

- ❑ Consider potential risks and benefits of moving residents out of the memory care unit to a designated COVID-19 care unit. Moving residents with confirmed COVID-19 to a designated COVID-19 care unit can help to decrease the exposure risk of residents and HCP; however, moving residents with cognitive impairment to new locations within the facility may cause disorientation, anger, and agitation as well as increase risks for other safety concerns such as falls or wandering. Facilities may determine that it is safer to maintain care of residents with COVID-19 on the memory unit with dedicated personnel.
 - ❑ Identify space in the facility that could be dedicated to care for residents with confirmed COVID-19. This could be a dedicated floor, unit, or wing in the facility, or a group of rooms at the end of the unit that will be used to cohort residents with COVID-19.
 - ❑ Identify HCP who will be assigned to work with COVID-19 residents.

Testing

- ❑ Develop a testing plan in compliance with CMS guidelines.