

	<b>End of Life and Outdoor Visitation, limited indoor visitation, activities- NY</b>			C-IC-28g
<b>Dept:</b>	Clinical Operations	<b>New X Revised</b>	Last Date Reviewed/Revised:	9/2020
			Prev. Date Reviewed/Revised:	7/2020
			Creation Date:	7/2020
<b>RELATED FORMS:</b> Following NYS department of health guidance, CDC and CMS guidance				

**Policy:**

Per the NYS Department of Health on March 13, 2020 the department issued guidance to NH's for limited visitation to medically necessary or end-of-life services. Such guidance was updated July 10, 2020, and will now permit outside visitation, and limited indoor visitation and activities. Facility will have a NY Forward safety plan in place prior to visitation and small group activities.

The facility will complete an NY Forward Safety Plan and submit to the [covidnursinghomeinfo@health.ny.gov](mailto:covidnursinghomeinfo@health.ny.gov) the visitor screening will be maintained onsite in an electronic format and available upon request. No more than 10 percent (10%) of the residents shall have visitors at any one time and only 2 visitors will be allowed per resident at any one time. Visitors under the age of 18 are allowed but must be accompanied by an adult 18 years old or older.

The facility will be absent of any new onset of Covid-19 in the Nursing Home as reported daily on the HERDS survey and as reported weekly to the NHSN for a period of no less than fourteen (14) days. The facilities that are doing visitation currently may allow visitation without the presentation of a negative COVID-19 test result for a transition period until September 24, 2020.

**Procedure:**

A resident who is suspected or confirmed to be infected with COVID-19, presents with COVID-19 signs and symptoms, quarantined for an exposure to a COVID-19 Case or a 14 day quarantine/observation period cannot be visited except for an end of life situation.

Facility should consult every resident to determine who the resident would wish to visit with in person. At this time, we will explain to the resident how the visitation will work and what the resident can expect.

Visitors will be required to sign a Consent prior to their visit, acknowledging that there is a possibility of exposure to COVID-19 and releases the facility of any liability should they contract the COVID-19. The Consent further explains that you are required to report immediately to the facility if you should develop any COVID-19 symptoms.

For Residents who are bed bound facility will continue to use alternative methods of visitation through videoconferencing, skype, and FaceTime as much as possible. Limited visitation may be permitted but should adhere to the same requirements for other visits as much as possible. Visitors should go to the resident room and not any other areas in the facility.

End of Life visits should be scheduled in advance and the facility will do everything within reason to accommodate your visit. To schedule a visit please contact the Director of Social Services, Administrator, or Director of Nursing. Please call the facility and speak with one of us for further information.

Under certain circumstances such as End of Life and bed bound residents limited indoor visitation will occur and should be in well ventilated space with use of face mask or face covering and appropriate PPE if necessary.

Visitors who are coming to the facility for an end of life visit are required to be screened and adhere to the following guidelines. In the event that the facility guidelines are not adhered to, the visit will be cancelled or terminated immediately for the safety of our residents and staff and facility at large.

- All visitors will be screened at the front desk by a screener, including COVID-19 symptoms before visiting with the resident. Any visitors with symptoms of COVID-19 infection or have any of the below 3 bullets will not be permitted to visit:
- Symptoms:
  - Fever of 100.0 or greater (the screener will obtain temp. on entry of the facility)
  - Chills
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Sore throat
  - Fatigue
  - Muscle or body aches
  - Headache
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Congestion or runny nose
  - Nausea
  - Vomiting
  - Diarrhea
- The visitors for end of life Residents are exempt from the required negative COVID-19 testing within 7 days.
- In the last 14 days, has had contact with someone with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19, or someone under investigation for COVID-19, or someone ill with respiratory illness; or

- Has been diagnosed with COVID-19 and has not yet met criteria for the discontinuation of isolation per guidance issued by NYDOH and CDC which includes either a negative COVID-19 test or at least 14 days from the COVID-19 positive test result.

Residents are limited to **two (2)** visitors at a time.

Visitors must restrict physical contact with anyone other than the resident while in the Community. For example, practice social distancing (remain six feet apart) with no handshaking or hugging.

Visitors and residents **MUST** both wear a **face covering or mask** and/or other personal protective equipment deemed necessary by the facility (gown, gloves, and eye protection) for the duration of the visit. The face covering must cover the nose and mouth at all times during the visit and until the visitor exits the building. If you are required to wear additional PPE, the facility will instruct you prior to your visit and at the time of your visit on putting on the PPE and removing the PPE.

You will be instructed on good hand hygiene prior to your visit and after, when you are being screened you will be asked to utilize hand sanitizer.

Visitors must remain in the designated area for the visit (Patients Room, Common Area, outdoor area, etc.) during the entire visit and may not wander the facility for any reason. There will be a designated restroom for you to use should you require to do so during your visit)

Visitors may not bring in any beverages or food for consumption or shared consumption. Unopened food may be left at the front desk for your loved one as long as it is labeled.

If you feel you will not be able to adhere to any of the above, your visit will be cancelled or terminated. Please remember this is not viewed as punitive in anyway, we are required to ensure maximum safety during this time.

Visitors are advised to monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 for at least 14 days after exiting the facility. If symptoms should occur (see the list above) you are strongly advised to self-isolate at home, contact your healthcare provider and immediately notify the facility of the date you were in the facility, date of symptom onset, individuals you came in contact with and the location of where you visited in the facility. This allows the facility to immediately screen all individuals of reported contact and take all necessary actions to ensure safety of residents and staff and our community.

### **Designated Outdoor Visitations**

Visits **must be scheduled** in advance and are dependent on weather conditions (extreme heat, inclement conditions may lead to these visits being cancelled), availability of outdoor space and the health and well-being of the resident. Please contact the Activities Department at the facility to schedule a **twenty-minute** visit. The Activities Department will provide you with further detailed information regarding where and how the visit will take place. Below is the schedule for visits at LeRoy Village Green Nursing & Rehabilitation:

### **Tuesday & Thursdays 10am-4pm**

If an indoor visit needs to take place in extreme circumstances, the facility will identify a common area space that is well ventilated and not to exceed 10 individuals (visitors, and staff combined) (depending on room size). Facility will ensure appropriate social distancing and facemasks are in use per NYS DOH, CMS, and CDC.

***If you are unavailable during these times, please reach out to Activities Department to schedule an alternative meeting.***

Visitors who are coming to the facility for an outdoor visit are required to be screened and adhere to the following guidelines. In the event that the facility guidelines are not adhered to, the visit will be cancelled or terminated immediately for the safety of our residents and staff and community at large. If a visit is cancelled for any reason please do not view this as a punitive action, we are required to keep our residents and staff and facility at large safe. Due to inclement weather a visit may be rescheduled or a monitored indoor visit may be approved in a location that has a separate entrance door that enters into the area for the visit.

- All visitors will be screened at a designated location on the facility grounds for infectious communicable diseases, including COVID-19 symptoms before visiting with the resident. Any visitors with symptoms of COVID-19 infection or have any of the below 3 bullets will not be permitted to visit:
- Symptoms
  - Fever of 100.0 or greater (the screener will take your temperature on entry and exit of the facility)
  - Chills
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Sore throat
  - Fatigue
  - Muscle or body aches
  - Headache
  - New loss of taste or smell

Congestion or runny nose

Nausea

Vomiting

Diarrhea

- The visitor must present a verified negative Covid-19 test within the last week (7 days) (the 7 days starts from the date of the collection of the COVID test specimen), visitation must be refused if the individual fails to present such negative test result.
- Visitors include but not limited to family/guardians, long-term care ombudsman must provide facility with a negative Covid-19 test within the last 7 days
- In the last 14 days, has had contact with someone with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19, or someone under investigation for COVID-19, or someone ill with respiratory illness; or
- Has been diagnosed with COVID-19 and has not yet met criteria for the discontinuation of isolation per guidance issued by NYDOH and CDC which includes either a negative COVID-19 test or at least 14 days from the COVID-19 positive test result.

All visitors will be required to wear a face covering or face mask, including the resident. The face mask or face covering must cover your nose and mouth completely and must stay on during the entire visit.

Touching, hugging, handshaking, kissing, etc. is prohibited at this time.

Food and beverages are **not permitted** to be given to the residents during the visits. Visitors may bring items for the residents, but packages must be left at the entrance way to facility properly labeled with the resident's name and room number.

Social distancing of 6 feet or more from the resident and staff member must be observed at all times during the visit.

Please understand that a designated staff member is required to remain with the resident at all times during your visit. Staff will help with transition of resident and monitoring of visitation. Staff member will also ensure cleaning and disinfecting of areas of visitation after each visit using an EPA-approved disinfectant is completed.

Visitors may bring their own water for themselves during the visit, but this water **cannot** be shared with the resident. The facility will provide for any hydration to the resident.

Visitors who arrive early must wait in their vehicle until their visitation time. If you are using public or ride share transportation, you will need to wait in an outdoor space while maintaining social distancing from all other visitors and/or staff at all times. Face Masks and Coverings will be required from the onset to the end of your visit.

Visitors and Residents must sign an informed consent form for each visit. This consent form is an acknowledgement that they are both aware of the possible dangers of exposure to COVID-19 for both the resident and the visitor and they will follow the rules set by the facility in regard to outdoor visitation. In addition, the visitor(s) will immediately notify the facility if they should have an onset of any COVID-19 symptoms and/or test positive for COVID-19 within 14 days of their visit. The facility is required to receive this signed statement from each visitor and resident (if the resident is unable to consent then the consent needs to be signed by the authorized representative). The visitor(s) and the resident will be provided with a copy of your signed consent.

Facility Postings of the visiting procedures and activity procedures will be easily assessable, facility website will have information of visiting procedures and activity procedures for Residents, families, and staff to review. Weekly Robo calls will be available for updated information for Residents, families, and staff.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as we venture into this phase to **permit outside visitation, limited indoor visitation and activities.**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the facility at (585) 768-2561, and ask for the Activities Director.

Small group activities will be scheduled through the activities department for each Unit in the facility. No more than 10 Residents and staff will be in a Unit dining room/common area at one time. All Residents will be required to maintain 6 feet distance and wear a facemask. Activities staff will monitor the entire activity from start to finish. All resident screening will be completed prior to the start of the small gathering of residents. No food or drink items will be served during the group activity.

Residents may be assisted to go outdoors with staff supervision with the appropriate infection control, safety and social distancing requirements maintained.

All non-essential personnel as subject to the same infection control requirements as staff, including but not limited to testing for COVID-19 with the same frequency as for staff; wearing a mask, performing hand hygiene, and maintain social distancing. **Students should follow the guidelines established in their agreement between the nursing home and academic institution.**

Communal Dining remains suspended at this time