



Indiana
Department
of
Health

Long Term Care NEWSLETTER

Issue 2020-64
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CMS Information:

- QSO-21-02-NH – Compliance with Residents’ Rights Requirement related to Nursing Home Residents’ Right to Vote
- Life Safety Code Information: Heaters for Outdoor Tents

Civil Money Penalty (CMP) Education Information:

- Building an Infection Prevention Savvy Workforce – November 2020

QSO-21-02-NH – Compliance with Resident

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is affirming the continued right of nursing home residents to exercise their right to vote. While the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency has resulted in limitations for visitors to enter the facility to assist residents, nursing homes must still ensure residents are able to exercise their Constitutional right to vote. States, localities, and nursing home owners and administrators are encouraged to collaborate to ensure a resident’s right to vote is not impeded.

During the Public Health Emergency, CMS is advising against the use of nursing homes as polling locations for the general public.

Complete Information & Worksheet: [Compliance with Residents’ Right Requirement related to Nursing Home Residents’ Right to Vote](#)

Life Safety Code Information: Heaters for Outdoor Tents

CMS has received several inquiries regarding the use of heaters in outdoor tents (typically used for visitation purposes). CMS has issued the following statement:

“We (CMS) have not issued any specific instructions regarding the use of patio propane heaters, that when installing outdoor structures for visitation, facilities need to ensure appropriate life safety code and health care facilities code requirements found at 42CFR483.90 are met. This would also include that any

State or local requirements are met.”

CMS has not specifically prohibited the use of heaters in outdoor tents. However, many state and local jurisdictions (building departments, fire marshal, fire department, etc.) have specific permitting requirements for constructing temporary structures (i.e. tents) and heating sources beyond what is found in the Life Safety Code. Facilities will need to check with their respective state and local authorities for requirements before setting up tents.

Email any questions regarding Life Safety Code requirements to Amy Kelley amkelley@isdh.in.gov.

Civil Money Penalty (CMP) Education Information

Building an Infection Prevention Savvy Workforce – Virtual Training

Indiana long term care professionals who are interested in infection prevention and control. The funding provided to offer this course only supports the attendance of long-term care professionals working in an Indiana skilled nursing facility.

When: Wednesday, November 4, 2020, 11am - 4 pm Tuesday, November 10, 2020, 11 am - 4 pm
Tuesday, November 17, 2020, 11 am - 4 pm

Please note: a 15-minute break will be given, but there is no lunch break. Participants are required to attend all three days.

Trainers: Terri Bogue, MSN, RN, PCNS-BC Linda Greene, RN, MPS, CIC

Delivery Mode: Three-day, virtual training sessions. The class is designed to offer three partial days of virtual training, with approximately a week interval between sessions. Participants are required to attend all three days. Please note: a 15-minute break will be given, but there is no lunch break.

Content: The training sessions are designed to serve as an introduction to infection control with long term care specific content and examples. The training will also cover practices related to specific infections like COVID-19, C. Diff and urinary tract infections. This training is designed to meet the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services’ regulations for Infection Prevention Specialists working in long term care nursing facilities.

The course will involve a pre-and post-test to reflect knowledge improvement. Additionally, there will be a “final exam” given after the third virtual session.

Credential: Participants receiving a score of 75% or above on the final exam will receive a Certificate of Training: Infection Prevention in the Long-Term Care Setting.

Cost: Free. This course is funded by the Indiana Department of Health through the Division of Long Term Care - Civil Money Penalty (CMP) fund. Additional virtual Infection Prevention courses will be held in 2021, dates TBD.

Register Today For questions, contact Lidia Dubicki at ldubicki@uindy.edu