

## Infection Prevention and Control Tips: New Resident and Transport Recommendations

Based on direct observations in nursing homes in Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin, here are some common recommendations to improve infection prevention and control processes when admitting new residents or transporting residents to another location.

- Any new resident, as well as transporters, are to wear masks, at least a cloth mask during transport if 3-ply surgical masks are not available. This is especially important for a Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) case.
- Before entering the facility, transporters should conduct hand hygiene.
- Ideally, conduct the intake in an isolation room by a dedicated nurse for the COVID-19 area.
- Residents may require temporary relocation to external facilities for medical services including dialysis.
- Provide asymptomatic residents with either a cloth mask or surgical mask and ensure the resident wears it correctly during transport and time in the facility.
- As much as possible, avoid the transport of non-suspected residents with suspect or confirmed COVID-19 residents at the same time (i.e. discordant resident status).
- Suspected/confirmed residents should sit as far away from the driver as possible.
- To promote airflow, open windows at least slightly.
- For the transport of COVID-19 residents the driver should be equipped with facemask and eye protection, at minimum, with training in correct protective personal equipment (PPE) use.
- Clean and disinfect the vehicle using appropriate products between each transfer.
- Clean and disinfect the wheelchair used to transport the resident between each use.

These tips are based on observations during onsite visits. Superior Health Quality Alliance contracted IPCWell to conduct on-site assessments. All data, information and recommendations provided by IPCWell are for informational purposes only. IPCWell makes no representations that the patient safety recommendations will protect the facility from litigation or regulatory action if the recommendations are followed. Nothing contained in the recommendations are intended to be a substitute for professional medical diagnosis or treatment. IPCWell is not liable for any errors, omissions, losses, injuries, or damages arising from the use of these recommendations.