

## COVID-19 Care Area

Dedicated space in the facility to care for residents with Confirmed COVID-19. This could be a dedicated floor, unit, or wing in the facility or group of rooms at the end of a unit.

### Recommendations for COVID Area/Unit

#### Facility layout for staff access:

- Designate separate entrance and exit doors (optimal)
- Staff break area separated from patient care area with bathroom for staff use only
- Provide an area for staff to put on and remove personal protective equipment (PPE) when entering/exiting the unit
- Ensure patient care area or rooms have access to bathrooms/showers
- Designate area on unit where staff can perform documentation responsibilities while monitoring residents
- Clean supply area/linen supply in protected area with easy access
- Medication storage/preparation area with refrigerator
- Soiled utility area for waste and used equipment for reprocessing

#### Personal Protection Equipment:

- N95 or higher-level respirator (or facemask if respirator not available)
- Eye Protection (i.e., goggles or disposable face shield that covers the front and sides of the face)
- Gloves
- Gowns

*Depending on the availability of PPE, items such as gowns and respirators may need to be prioritized. See Strategies for Optimizing PPE Supply for additional guidance.*

#### Resident rooms

- Limit number of residents in each room where possible
- Private rooms with separate bathrooms **or at least 6 feet between beds** with cubicle curtain in closed position
- Consider positioning beds in head-to-toe configuration if possible
- Remove unnecessary furniture/equipment
- Avoid porous surfaces (upholstered furniture, carpet) if possible

#### Medical supplies for unit

- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Soap and paper towels
- Incontinent products
- Bedside commodes
- Urinals
- Personal hygiene supplies
- Vital sign equipment including thermometers
- Wheelchairs, Etc.

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### **Food services**

- Catering with disposable plates/utensils; carry out containers
- Separate staff space to eat without wearing PPE
  - Designated break room
  - Maintain social distancing, monitor

### **Environmental**

- Trained staff provided with necessary PPE
- EPA- registered disinfectants from List N
- Daily and terminal cleaning of room, floors and bathrooms
- Immediate cleanup of spills
- Regular disinfection of high-rough surfaces

### **Diagnostic equipment**

- Individual glucometers
- Individual pulse oximetry equipment or disinfection plan per manufacturer's recommendations
- Anticoagulation monitoring equipment with manufacturer's recommendations for disinfecting

### **Recommended Staffing**

- Infection prevention training for staff prior to being assigned to the unit
- Infection prevention coordinator; oversight of unit including surveillance
- RN charge nurse on site each shift (if possible)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/alternative-care-sites.html>

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