



FOCUS POINT NEWSLETTER SPECIAL FOCUS POINT COVID-19 ALERT 4/ 3/ 2020

NEW and Updated CHC Resource

- **New** - We have developed a short PowerPoint presentation on how to ensure proper fit of the N95 respirator mask. The PowerPoint was developed for self-instruction on how to apply, remove, and care for the N95 respirator mask; it includes voice-over instruction as well as step-by-step slides for use by your staff. The package also includes a post test to validate completion and understanding. If you would like to purchase this training for your facility cost is \$50 for the package. Contact Mary at mary@chileshealthcare.com
- Updated Policy - Coronavirus Disease - COVID-19 – Admission of Resident with Suspected and/or Diagnosis of COVID-19. Cost is \$50, contact Mary at mary@chileshealthcare.com



CNA Testing

The CMS waiver information has clear guidance for CNAs working in nursing homes that the period of time to test [the 120 work hours in your facility] has been extended as part of the waiver. The question was “what about CNAs working in other settings such as Assisted Living?” The Virginia Board of Nursing regulations regarding obtaining certification for CNA clearly states that the person can take the test for up to 2 years after completing the course work.

- 18VAC90-25-71. Certification by examination.

An applicant who fails to take the board-approved skills and written portions of the state examination within two years of completion of the training or who has failed the examination in three attempts shall re-enroll and successfully complete another approved nurse aide training program before reapplying.



4/3/2020 CMS Update -- COVID-19 Long-Term Care Facility Guidance April 2, 2020

On 4/3/2020, CMS posted an updated list of recommendations for Long-Term Care Facilities with focus on prevention and management of COVID-19. One of the new recommendations from CMS, includes: All long-term care facility personnel in the country should wear a facemask while they are in the facility. This document may be found at: <https://www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/Emergency/EPRO/Current-Emergencies/Current-Emergencies-page>.

SOME ADDITIONAL THINGS TO CONSIDER SHOULD YOU HAVE A POITIVE OR SUSPECTED CASE OF COVID-19



- Need for additional isolation carts and supplies
- Need for increased storage and pick up of hazardous waste
- Amount of time it takes for room moves and deep cleaning of vacated rooms
- Routes to take for the room moves and staff/resident safety
- Need to decrease the potential cross contamination of staff when entering and exiting the building
- Be proactive-remove fingernail polish to enhance pulse oximetry
- Obtain orders for comfort medications
- Review/revise Advance Directives
- Offer assistance to staff when signs of burnout, fear, stress, etc. are noted