



Housing Individuals Who Have Tested Positive for COVID-19

April 2020

HOUSING & SAFETY PRACTICES FOR THOSE WHO ARE COVID-19 POSITIVE

If housing COVID-19 positive guests, hotels should consider the following recommendations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC):

- Provide the ill person with information on [how to care for themselves](#) and [when to seek medical attention](#).
- Encourage guests with [COVID-19 symptoms](#) to self-isolate – limit their use of public/shared spaces as much as possible.
- Encourage the use of a [cloth face covering](#) when it is necessary to be in public/shared spaces.
- Consider reducing cleaning frequency dedicated to persons with COVID-19 symptoms to as-needed cleaning to avoid unnecessary contact with the ill persons.
- Follow guidance on [when to stop isolation](#).
- Be prepared for the potential need to transport persons with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 for testing or non-urgent medical care. Avoid using public transportation, ridesharing, or taxis. Follow [guidelines](#) for cleaning and disinfecting any transport vehicles.
- Identify a list of healthcare facilities and [alternative care sites](#) where residents with COVID-19 can seek housing and receive appropriate care, if needed.

PROPERTIES SHOULD MINIMIZE THE NUMBER OF STAFF MEMBERS WHO HAVE FACE-TO-FACE INTERACTIONS WITH GUESTS WHO HAVE CONFIRMED OR SUSPECTED COVID-19.

Encourage all staff, caregivers and others who may visit persons with COVID-19 symptoms to follow [recommended precautions](#) for preventing spread. Staff at [higher risk](#) of severe illness from COVID-19 should not have close contact with guests who have confirmed or suspected COVID-19, if possible.

Those who have been in close contact (i.e., less than 6 feet apart for a prolonged period of time) with a guest who has confirmed or suspected COVID-19 should monitor their health and call their healthcare provider if they develop [symptoms suggestive of COVID-19](#).

This is an information service of CHLA. It does not purport to serve as legal or other professional advice, and the counsel of competent professionals should always be sought.

PREVENTION STEPS

- Clean your hands often
- Avoid close contact
- Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Clean and disinfect
- The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.

Find complete, detailed information from the [Center for Disease Control](#) website.

THE 6-20-100 RULE

6 feet is the amount of space people should keep from others to maintain social distancing.

20 seconds is the amount of time people should take to wash their hands with soap and water.

And 100 degrees is the temperature that someone should stay home with.

CHLA + CABBI Members:

Questions or concerns?

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SAFETY PRACTICES FOR EMPLOYEES

- Wear disposable gloves and gowns for all tasks in the cleaning process, including handling trash.
- Additional personal protective equipment (PPE) might be required based on the cleaning/disinfectant products being used and whether there is a risk of splash.
- Gloves and gowns should be removed carefully to avoid contamination of the wearer and the surrounding area.
- Use gloves when removing garbage bags and handling and disposing of trash. [Wash hands](#) afterwards.
- Staff can **provide personal cleaning supplies** to the person who is sick (if appropriate). Supplies include tissues, paper towels, cleaners, and EPA-registered disinfectants. If they feel up to it, the person who is sick can clean their own space.
- Meal services should provide disposable plates/utensils. Non-disposable food service items used should be handled with gloves and washed with dish soap and hot water or in a dishwasher. [Wash hands](#) after handling used food service items.
- Restrict the number of people allowed in laundry rooms at one time to ensure everyone can stay at least 6 feet apart.
- Provide disposable gloves, soap for washing hands, and household cleaners and [EPA-registered disinfectants](#) for staff to clean and disinfect buttons, knobs, and handles of laundry machines, laundry baskets and shared laundry items.
- Post [guidelines](#) for doing laundry such as washing instructions and handling of dirty laundry.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS TO MAINTAIN SAFE OPERATIONS

- Create plans to protect your staff from spread of COVID-19 and help them implement [personal preventive measures](#).
- Implement sick leave policies for staff/employees that are flexible and non-punitive.
- [Clean and disinfect](#) shared areas (laundry facilities, elevators, break rooms) and frequently touched surfaces using [EPA-registered disinfectants](#) ideally more than once a day.
- Encourage [social distancing](#) by asking staff and temporary residents to stay at least 6 feet apart from others and wear [cloth face coverings](#) in any shared spaces, including spaces restricted to staff only.
- Use physical barriers such as sneeze guards to protect front desk/check-in staff who will have interactions with guests. Provide COVID-19 prevention supplies for staff and residents in common areas at your facility, such as soap, alcohol-based hand sanitizers that contain at least 60% alcohol, tissues, trash baskets, and, if possible, cloth face coverings.
- Limit staff entering rooms unless it is necessary. Use virtual communications (phone or video chat), as appropriate. Limit the presence of non-essential workers, volunteers and guests in shared areas, when possible.
- Designate a separate place for staff to eat without wearing PPE.
- Consider any special needs or accommodations for those who [need to take extra precautions](#), such as older adults, people with disabilities, and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions. Consider any special communications and assistance needs of your staff and residents, including [persons with disabilities](#).
- Suggest that guests keep up-to-date lists of medical conditions and medications, and periodically check to ensure they have a sufficient supply of their prescription and over-the-counter medications.
- Ensure that guests are aware of serious symptoms of their underlying conditions or of COVID-19 that require emergency care, and that they know who to ask for help and call 911.

