

Prevent COVID-19:

Screening Checklist – Recommendations for SNF Visitors

ALL individuals (employees, family, visitors, government officials) entering the building should be asked the following questions:

1. Has this individual washed their hands or used alcohol-based hand rub (ABHR) on entry?

- Yes
- No – please ask them to do so.

2. Ask the individual if they have any of the following respiratory symptoms?

- Fever (checking for temperature is not necessary)
- Sore throat
- Cough
- New shortness of breath

If YES to any, ask them to not enter the building. They may or may not have COVID-19, and the potential consequences to COVID-19 entering the building is serious enough to ask them to not enter even though they may not have it. Many populations outside of the elderly do not show any symptoms but are able to transmit the virus to others.

If NO to all proceed to question #3.

3. Ask the individual if they have

- Travelled internationally within the last 14 days to areas where COVID-19 cases have been confirmed
- Worked in another health care setting that has confirmed COVID-19 cases (this may change as COVID spreads in the community)

If YES to any, ask them to not enter the building

If NO to all, proceed to question #4

4. Ask the visitor the purpose for their visit/entry

- Employees and contractors involved in meeting the resident's needs or maintaining the operations of the facility should be allowed
- Immediate family members, approved by the resident or resident's representative, who do not screen positive for #2 or #3 above, should be allowed
- Immediate family members visits for critical or time sensitive reasons such as hospice related visits, complete medical authorizations, etc. should be allowed but need to use mask, gown and gloves.
- Routine social visits should be strongly discouraged

NOTE: This is not a complete ban on all visitors, but routine social visits are discouraged. The rationale of should be explained, and alternative methods of communications offered.

RATIONALE: COVID-19 is extremely dangerous for SNF residents with early estimates of at least a 15% mortality rate for older adults 80+ years old. Many populations outside of the elderly do not show any symptoms but are able to transmit the virus to others. The risk of entering the building is large enough to ask them to not enter.

5. Remind the individual to

- Wash their hands or use ABHR throughout their time in the building
- Not shake hands with, touch or hug individuals during their visit