

REVISED--NURSING HOME VISITATION UPDATES

The Office of the Governor of the State of New York, the New York State Department of Health, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid, have updated nursing home visitation guidelines during the COVID-19 PHE, **effective 12/13/2021**.

- Visitation is now fully open and unrestricted to all residents. A resident may deny or withdraw consent for visitation at any time.
- Vaccination is not a condition of visitation.
- No advance scheduling is necessary to visit the facility.
- There is no limit to the number of visitors a resident may have.
- Outdoor visitation is preferred.
- Physical distancing will be maintained.
- Visitation will not be conducted in a resident's room, if the resident's roommate is not vaccinated or immunocompromised.
- **Face coverings/masks are required in the building at all times, despite vaccination status.**
- Although **not recommended**, quarantining residents may receive visitors in their rooms. **Face masks are required for residents and visitors.**
- In the event the facility is conducting an outbreak investigation, visitation may still occur, but adherence to the core principles of infection prevention is required, including: wearing face coverings/masks, regardless of vaccination status, and visits should ideally occur in the resident's room.
- Residents that choose to leave the facility may do so, but it is recommended that regardless of vaccination status: a face covering or mask be worn, frequent hand hygiene using an alcohol based hand rub, and physical distancing.
- **Visitors who have a positive viral test for COVID-19, symptoms of COVID-19, or currently meet the criteria for quarantine should NOT enter the facility.**
- **All visitors are strongly urged to get a COVID-19 vaccine and a booster vaccine, as soon as practicable.**