



Residential Treatment Facility – Response Plan for COVID-19 Positive Patients

Identify a suitable room for patient

- Is well ventilated.
- Has an attached **private bathroom**, if possible. If this is not possible, identify another close-by bathroom that may be restricted to use by the patient only.
- Ideally **located away from others**. As much as possible, an ill person should stay in a specific room and away from other people in their home, following [home care guidance](#).
- If patient is moved from one room to another after testing positive, their previous room will need a **deep clean**.

Identify one or more caregivers who can provide for patient

- Assure caregiver(s) able to provide support for the patient's basic needs such as: getting meals, groceries, toiletries, prescriptions, and other personal needs
- Assure caregiver(s) able to monitor the patient's symptoms
- Ensure communication between caregiver(s), patient, and healthcare provider/local health department
- Ensure caregiver(s) availability for duration of patients' potential isolation
- The ill person should eat/be fed in their room if possible. Non-disposable food service items used should be handled with gloves and washed with hot water or in a dishwasher. [Clean hands](#) after handling used food service items.

Limit the number of people who have contact with the patient

- Only people essential for providing care should enter patient room.
- Other residents should stay away from patient.
- Other residents should use a separate bathroom.
- Restrict visitors** who do not have an essential need to be in the residence.
- Keep older adults, very young children, and those who have compromised immune systems or chronic health conditions away from the patient. This includes people with chronic heart, lung or kidney conditions, diabetes, and cancer.
- Maintain log** of caregivers and visitors who enter patient's room.
- Ensure patient has dishes, utensils, and glassware or sufficient disposable products that are **not shared with others**

Ensure sufficient supplies

- Ensure supply of **gloves** that can be used by all persons who enter the patient room, and **facemasks** covering mouth and nose for the patient to wear when others are visiting.
- Ensure the availability of **lined waste receptacles** in the patient's room and bathroom. If possible, dedicate a lined trash can for the ill person. Use gloves when removing garbage bags, handling, and disposing of trash. [Wash hands](#) after handling or disposing of trash.

Define a laundering procedure

- Launder linens (e.g. clothing, bedding) contaminated with blood, body fluids and/or secretions or excretions at the warmest temperatures recommended on the item's label and dry items completely. Sheets and bedding should be washed in **hot** water.
 - If possible, do not shake dirty laundry. This will minimize the possibility of dispersing virus through the air.
 - Dirty laundry from an ill person can be washed with other people's items.
 - Clean and disinfect clothes hampers according to guidance below for surfaces. If possible, consider placing a bag liner that is either disposable (can be thrown away) or can be laundered.
- Wear gloves** when handling soiled linens and discard after each use. If no gloves are used when handling dirty laundry, be sure to wash hands afterwards. If using reusable gloves, those gloves should be dedicated for cleaning and disinfection of surfaces for COVID-19 and should not be used for other household purposes. [Clean hands](#) immediately after gloves are removed.
- Place soiled linens in lined container for transport

Define a cleaning procedure

- Clean all touchable surfaces in the facility**, such as counters, tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, phones, keyboards, tablets, and bedside tables daily, or as needed. Also, clean any surfaces that may have blood, body fluids, and/or secretions or excretions on them.
- In the bedroom/bathroom dedicated for an ill person: consider reducing cleaning frequency to **as-needed** (e.g., soiled items and surfaces) to avoid unnecessary contact with the ill person.
 - The caregiver can provide personal cleaning supplies for an ill person's room and bathroom. These supplies include tissues, paper towels, cleaners and EPA-registered disinfectants (examples at [this link](#)).
 - If a separate bathroom is not available, the bathroom should be cleaned and disinfected after each use by an ill person. If this is not possible, the caregiver should wait as long as practical after use by an ill person to clean and disinfect the high-touch surfaces.
- Wear gloves** when cleaning surfaces. Wear disposable gloves when cleaning and disinfecting surfaces. Gloves should be discarded after each cleaning. If reusable gloves are used, those gloves should be dedicated for cleaning and disinfection of surfaces for COVID-19 and should not be used for other purposes. Consult the manufacturer's instructions for cleaning and disinfection products used. [Clean hands](#) immediately after gloves are removed.
- Use a **diluted bleach solution** or a household disinfectant with a label that says **EPA-registered for coronaviruses**.
 - For disinfection, diluted household bleach solutions, alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol, and most common EPA-registered household disinfectants should be effective.
 - Diluted household bleach solutions can be used if appropriate for the surface. Follow manufacturer's instructions for application and proper ventilation. Check to ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser. Unexpired household bleach will be effective against coronaviruses when properly diluted.
 - Prepare a bleach solution by mixing:
 - 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) bleach per gallon of water or
 - 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water

- [Products with EPA-approved emerging viral pathogens claims](#) are expected to be effective against COVID-19 based on data for harder to kill viruses. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products (e.g., concentration, application method and contact time, etc.).

- ☐ Read labels of cleaning products and follow recommendations provided on product labels. Labels contain instructions for safe and effective use of the cleaning product including precautions you should take when applying the product, such as wearing gloves or eye protection and making sure you have good ventilation during use of the product.
 - If surfaces are dirty, they should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
 - For soft (porous) surfaces such as carpeted floor, rugs, and drapes, remove visible contamination if present and clean with appropriate cleaners indicated for use on these surfaces. After cleaning:
- ☐ Place all contaminated waste in a lined container before disposing of them with other routine waste.
- ☐ **Wash hands immediately** after handling waste.