



March 12, 2021

Aloha Residents, Families and Responsible Parties;

We are happy to announce that Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) have recently provided updated guidance for in-person visitation. The updated guidance allows nursing facilities to start offering “responsible” in-person visitation. We will begin to offer increased in-person visitations on Monday, March 15, 2021. All visitations requests **MUST** be scheduled through the Social Services Department (808-441-9564)

We continue to ask for your patience as we work towards increasing visitations, we want to be smart about taking this huge step forward. ANRC will do this by slowly increasing the number of visitations occurring at the same time. We will proceed in a manner that will ensure safety, as it is our top priority to keep our facility free of COVID-19. We can accomplish this together by being responsible and accountable in following CMS’s Core Principle, maintaining infection prevention practices and facility guidelines.

Per CMS QSO-20-39-NH Revised guidance, [QSO-20-39-NH Revised \(cms.gov\)](https://www.cms.gov/medicare/quality/other-quality-programs/quality-senior-care/qso-20-39-nh-revised)

CMS Guidance

Visitation can be conducted through different means based on a facility’s structure and residents’ needs. Regardless of how visits are conducted, there are certain core principles and best practices that reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission:

Core Principles of COVID-19 Infection Prevention

- Screening of all who enter the facility for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., temperature checks, questions about and observations of signs or symptoms), and denial of entry of those with signs or symptoms or those who have close contact with someone with COVID-19 infection in the prior 14 days (regardless of the visitor’s vaccination status).
- Hand hygiene (use of alcohol-based hand rub is preferred)
- Face covering or mask (covering mouth and nose)
- Social distancing at least six feet between persons
- Instructional signage throughout the facility and proper visitor education on COVID19 signs and symptoms, infection control precautions, other applicable facility practices (e.g., use of face covering or mask, specified entries, exits and routs to designated areas, hand hygiene).
- Cleaning and disinfecting high frequency touched surfaces in the facility often, and designated visitation areas after each visit.
- Appropriate use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Effective cohorting of residents (e.g., separate areas dedicated to COVID-19 care)
- Resident and staff testing conducted as required in 42 CFR §483.80(h).

These core principles are consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance for nursing homes, and should be **adhered to at all times.**



Visitation Types

- **In-person outdoor visitation** CMS preferred visitation method to occur on outside side lanai.
- **In-person modified outdoor visitation** in the event of adverse weather visitations will occur in the large Conference room and possibly within the visitation tent.
- **In-person indoor visitation** will occur in facility as necessary in designated area and residents' rooms within residents own personal space.

Guidelines (rules) for visitation:

- All visitations requests **MUST** be scheduled through the **Social Services Department (808-441-9564)**
- Visitation duration is 45 minutes for outdoor visits and 60 minutes for indoor visits.
- A maximum of five (5) visitors per outdoor visit.
- A maximum of two (2) visitors per in-facility visit.
- Two (2) outdoor in-person visit will be conducted at a time.
- Three (3) in-room visitation will be conducted at a time.
- Visitor will inform screener of their arrival, the screener will notify the appropriate personnel.
- Visitors will be screened and observed outside facility for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 prior to visitation.
- Visitors will be instructed to remain in their vehicles until just prior to scheduled visitation times.
- Visitors will wear face covering at all times during visit (nose and mouth covered)
- Visitation will occur only in designated visitation location (movement and walking around premises is not permissible during visit).
- Visitors will adhere to social distancing (6-foot distance), this continues to be the safest way to prevent the spread of COVID-19, particularly if either party has not been fully vaccinated. However fully vaccinated residents can choose to have close contact (including touch) with their visitor while wearing well-fitting face mask and performing hand hygiene before and after.
- Visitors must physically distance from other residents and staff.
- Visitation may be monitored for adherence of CMS Core Principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and visitation guidelines.
- No eating and drinking during visitation. (see bullet #10 above)

ANRC will allow visits to be conducted with an adequate degree of privacy.

We are also happy to report that the updated guidance allows for residents that are fully vaccinated, can choose to have close contact (including touch) with their visitor while wearing a well-fitting face mask and performing hand-hygiene before and after.

ANRC reserves the right to end a visit or deny visitation privileges if visitors are unable to adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and visitation guidelines (rules).

NOTE**Residents who are on transmission-based precautions for COVID-19 (person under investigation, suspected COVID-19 and new admissions) will only receive visits that are virtual, or in-person for compassionate care situations, with adherence to transmission-based precautions. New admission quarantine is for a duration of 14 days. However, this restriction should be lifted once transmissionbased precautions are no longer required per CDC guidelines, and other visits may be conducted as described above.



Indoor Visitation During an Outbreak

An outbreak exists when a new onset of COVID-19 occurs (i.e., a new COVID-19 case among residents or staff). When a new case of COVID-19 among residents or staff is identified, we will immediately begin outbreak testing and suspend all visitation, until at least one round of facility-wide testing is completed.

Visitation can resume based on the following criteria:

- If the first round of outbreak testing reveals no additional COVID-19 cases in other areas (e.g., units) of the facility, then visitation can resume for residents in areas/units with no COVID-19 cases. However, we will suspend visitation on the affected unit until the facility meets the criteria to discontinue outbreak testing. For example, if the first round of outbreak testing reveals two more COVID-19 cases in the same unit as the original case, but not in other units, visitation can resume for residents in areas/units with no COVID-19 cases.
- If the first round of outbreak testing reveals one or more additional COVID-19 cases in other areas/units of the facility (e.g., new cases in two or more units), then we will suspend visitation for all residents (vaccinated and unvaccinated), until the facility meets the criteria to discontinue outbreak testing.

In conjunction with in-person visits we will continue to offer telephone calls and virtual visits. Please schedule virtual visits through our Therapeutic Recreation Department 247-2220 ext. 553.

If you start developing signs and symptoms of COVID-19 please notify the facility as soon as possible. If you suspect or are confirmed with COVID-19 please notify the facility as soon as possible.

We will continue to keep you informed of any further developments. If you have questions or concerns, please call 247-2220 ext. 542 for Darrin or ext. 536 for Vanessa. Please leave a message and we will respond as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Darrin Schadel
Administrator