

Summary of the COVID-19 Focused Survey for Acute and Continuing Care Providers

This is a summary of the COVID-19 Focused Survey for acute and continuing care providers (Non-Long term care facilities). Surveyors should review the Focused Infection Control Survey tool in light of the established State Operations Manual Survey Protocol for more detailed information. Facilities can review the Focused Survey to determine CMS's expectations for an infection prevention and control program during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Offsite Survey Activity	Onsite Survey Activity	Facility Self-Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the survey team plans to enter a facility with an active COVID-19 case, the survey team should contact their State Survey Agency (SA), the state health department, and CMS Regional Location to coordinate activities for these facilities. SAs should ensure surveyors are medically cleared, trained in the appropriate use of and have needed personal protective equipment (PPE) that could be required onsite. Conduct offsite planning to limit interruptions to care while onsite. Obtain information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facility-reported information; CDC, state/local public health reports; Complaint allegations. Identify survey activities that will be conducted offsite, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical record review Telephonic interviews Facility Policy/Procedure review Conduct any survey exit discussion with the facility by telephone and draft the CMS-2567 offsite. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the survey team identifies an active COVID-19 case after entering a facility, the survey team should contact their SA, the state health department, and CMS Regional Location to coordinate activities for the facility. Limit the onsite team to one to two surveyors. Identify onsite assignments for activities, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand hygiene practices Proper use/discarding of PPE Cleansing medical equipment Effective Transmission-Based Precautions Interviews: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy/Procedure knowledge Surveillance for sign/symptoms Notifying local health officials Adhere to all CDC guidance for infection prevention and control related to COVID-19. Identify and arrange for interviews that can be done telephonically. Be alert of other immediate jeopardy (IJ) situations that may be present, and investigate appropriately. 	<p>Facilities should utilize the COVID-19 Focused Survey as a self-assessment tool. Priority areas for self- assessment include all of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Standard Precautions; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Hand hygiene Use of PPE Transmission-Based Precautions Patient care (including patient placement); Infection prevention and control standards, policies and procedures (hand hygiene, PPE, cleaning and disinfection, surveillance); Visitor entry (i.e., screening, restriction, and education); Education, monitoring, and screening of staff; and Emergency preparedness – staffing in emergencies

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Section 3087 of the 21st Century Cures Act, signed into law in December 2016, added subsection (f) to section 319 of the Public Health Service Act. This new subsection gives the HHS Secretary the authority to waive Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) (44 USC 3501 et seq.) requirements with respect to voluntary collection of information during a public health emergency (PHE), as declared by the Secretary, or when a disease or disorder is significantly likely to become a public health emergency (SLPHE). Under this new authority, the HHS Secretary may waive PRA requirements for the voluntary collection of information if the Secretary determines that: (1) a PHE exists according to section 319(a) of the PHS Act or determines that a disease or disorder, including a novel and emerging public health threat, is a SLPHE under section 319(f) of the PHS Act; and (2) the PHE/SLPHE, including the specific preparation for and response to it, necessitates a waiver of the PRA requirements. The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) has been designated as the office that will coordinate the process for the Secretary to approve or reject each request.

The information collection requirements contained in this information collection request have been submitted and approved under a PRA Waiver granted by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. The waiver can be viewed at <https://aspe.hhs.gov/public-health-emergency-declaration-pra-waivers>.