



Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 6128
SANTA ANA, CA 92706-0128
PHONE: (714) 834-8180
FAX: (714) 564-4050

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

OCHCA Criteria for Closure and Reopening to Admissions in Facilities with COVID 10-26-20

Although the weekly CPDH All Facility call of 8-4-20 suggested that some facilities with active outbreaks who are “carrying out a diligent outbreak response, with no staffing or operational issues, and a well-separated observation area could likely safely take new admission”, in the event of an outbreak, OCHCA will continue to recommend two negative rounds of resident testing (**with second round being approximately 14 days from the last positive resident case**) in order to reopen to admission. Also, if facilities have experienced repeated outbreaks, especially large ones, a longer closure may be recommended in order to ensure patient safety.

Closure to Admissions:

1. One resident infected: temporary closure until baseline and 7-day screening of all residents in facility completed; in certain situations, may reopen after baseline screening of residents and staff. Can reopen after second screening if no additional resident cases identified and source of transmission is identified and contained, but need to repeat screening of close resident contacts (at a minimum) approximately 14 days after last exposure. If further resident cases identified, closed until reopening criteria met.
2. Two or more residents infected: closed until reopening criteria (described below) are met.
3. Staff member(s):
 - a. Single infected staff member: not closed to admissions. At a minimum, test residents cared for by staff member (CDPH says to test all residents) at baseline, 7* and ~14 days after last contact.
 - b. Two or more staff infected: facilities may be instructed to close to admissions if a cluster (2 or more within 7 days) of infected staff are identified, especially if those staff are symptomatic and have significant patient contact. This closure would continue until baseline and 7 day testing of all residents is completed and no evidence of transmission to residents. Although reopen, facility must repeat screening of close resident contacts at ~14 days* after last exposure.

*If baseline testing is performed near 7 days since last contact, then two screening 7 days apart are sufficient

During COVID Outbreak:

1. May readmit prior residents who were hospitalized for non-COVID reasons, as long as patient and family aware of risk of exposure.
2. May admit COVID+ patients to facility if space and staffing sufficient in COVID unit.

Criteria for reopening to new admissions (must meet all 3):

1. At least three (baseline, 7 days and 14 days) or more rounds of weekly screening of all COVID-negative residents/patients in the facility have been completed, and last two rounds have identified no new cases. Last round of testing should be approximately 14 days after last positive case.
2. It has been more than 7 days since any staff cluster of COVID-19 (2 or more staff with extensive direct patient care diagnosed t same time), and one round of resident testing 7 days after cluster is identified resulted all negative.
3. It has been approximately two weeks since last resident/patient case was identified.

NOTE: facilities may not reopen to admissions until written permission (either e-mail or reopening letter) received from PHN Liaison or other member of LTCF team.