

Guidance for Families Receiving Home Care in the Time of COVID

Families being referred for home health or home care should feel confident that they are working with an agency that is following [federal](#) and [state](#) guidance for safe home care practice. Below are some questions that families can ask and what families can expect prior to a home care visit:

1. How are you screening your staff for Covid?
2. Do you have a daily self-assessment tool that is mandatory for aides?
3. How does your agency manage workers with symptoms or who have been exposed? (How long is your quarantine?)
4. Have your aides and homemakers received training in infection control measures? Do they receive additional Covid training?
5. What protective equipment and sanitization procedures are your staff using for NON Covid client/patient care?
6. What protective equipment and sanitization procedures are your staff using for positive Covid clients/patients? Do you train your staff to take PPE on and off?
7. Are your staff assigned to both Covid positive and non Covid clients/patients?
At all? In the same day as other patients? In the same week?
8. Who in your agency determines that a worker is safe to return to work after quarantine and what type of return to work testing is required?
9. What supplies will the client/patient need to provide? Gloves, sanitizer, etc
10. Will my family member need to wear a mask during care?

Before making a first visit, the clinician should call to determine the client/patient's current COVID-19 status, and the appropriate type of protective equipment that may be needed for the visit.

The homecare industry is committed to continuing to provide care – safely - to frail and vulnerable populations in order to keep them where they are safest: in their homes.

