



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

JUDITH M. PERSICHILLI, RN, BSN, MA
Commissioner

IN RE:	:	
	:	
New Jersey Nursing Homes and Assisted	:	
Living Facilities	:	
	:	
	:	EMERGENCY CONDITIONAL
	:	CURTAILMENT OF
	:	ADMISSIONS ORDER
	:	

TO: All Administrators

Pursuant to Executive Order 103, Governor Philip D. Murphy declared that the spread of COVID-19, which is a novel coronavirus, within New Jersey constitutes an imminent public health hazard that threatens and presently endangers the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of one or more municipalities or counties of the State. As such, Governor Murphy declared the existence of a Public Health Emergency, pursuant to the Emergency Health Powers Act, N.J.S.A. 26:13-1 to -31, and a State of Emergency, pursuant to the Disaster Control Act, N.J.S.A. App.A:9-45 & App. A:9-47. These emergency declarations were thereafter continued by Executive Order No. 119.

Under the declared health emergency, the Commissioner is empowered, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:13-12, to "[t]ake all reasonable and necessary measures to prevent the transmission of infectious disease or exposure to toxins or chemicals and apply proper controls and treatment for infectious disease or exposure to toxins or chemicals." Pursuant to this authority, the Department of Health (Department), hereby directs all nursing homes and assisted living facilities that fail to adhere to the below directives to curtail all admissions and readmissions in accordance with this Order.

I. EMERGENCY CONDITIONAL CURTAILMENT OF ADMISSIONS ORDER

- A. Pursuant to the above-referenced authority, in order to slow the spread of COVID-19 in the community and protect vulnerable populations from contracting the virus, the Commissioner of the Department of Health hereby ORDERS that any facility unable to effectively cohort its residents in accordance with the minimum requirements set forth below shall immediately curtail admissions as follows:
1. The facility shall review its outbreak response plan to determine whether it includes a cohorting plan as described below. If it does not, the facility is directed to implement such a plan, specifically allowing for:
 - a. Overall separation of residents;
 - b. Dedicating staff to each cohort; and
 - c. Allowing for necessary space to do so at the onset of an outbreak.
 2. The facility shall identify a minimum of three cohort groups:
 - a. Individuals who are showing symptoms of COVID-19 or who have tested positive for COVID-19;
 - b. Individuals who have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or has shown symptoms of COVID-19 (i.e., individuals who are not themselves symptomatic, but may potentially be incubating the virus); and
 - c. Individuals who are not ill and have not been exposed
 3. The facility shall be prohibited from accepting admissions or readmissions of individuals if the facility has COVID-19 residents and does not have the ability to:
 - a. Cohort as in 1. above;
 - b. Follow CDC guidance for infection prevention and control; and
 - c. Maintain adequate staffing.
 4. The facility shall be permitted to accept admissions or readmissions of individuals if the facility has COVID-19 residents and the facility can:
 - a. Cohort as in 1. above;
 - b. Follow CDC guidance for infection prevention and control; and
 - c. Maintain adequate staffing.
 5. A facility without any COVID-19 positive residents shall be permitted to accept admissions or readmissions of individuals with or without COVID-19 if the facility has the ability to:
 - a. Cohort as in 1b. above;
 - b. Follow CDC guidance for infection prevention and control; and
 - c. Maintain adequate staffing.
 6. Admissions or readmissions for persons under investigation for COVID-19 is permitted only if they can be placed in isolation.

Emergency Conditional Curtailment of Admissions Order

April 13, 2020

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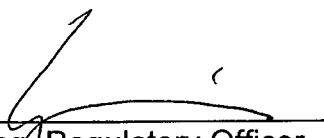
7. The facility shall comply with infection control measures as per the Department's guidance available at:
[https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID LTC Recommendations.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID_LTC_Recommendations.pdf)
8. The facility shall implement outbreak interventions outlined in the Department's Outbreak Management Checklist available at:
[https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID Outbreak Management Checklist.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID_Outbreak_Management_Checklist.pdf)

B. This Order is effective immediately upon your notification by email.

This emergency order shall remain in effect until the Department lifts the order. Please confer with your local health officer for further actions that may be necessary.

Failure to comply with this Emergency Order may result in the imposition of penalties and/or other applicable remedies.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your anticipated cooperation. If you have any questions regarding this Emergency Curtailment of Admissions Order, please contact Lisa King in the Office of Program Compliance at (609) 376-7890. For other questions, please contact the New Jersey Coronavirus and Poison Center Hotline at (800) 222-1222. For COVID-19 updates, please continue to check the Department's website for routinely updated information at <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>.



Lisa King, Regulatory Officer
Office of Program Compliance
Division of Certificate of Need and
Licensing

LK:jlm:dj

DATE: April 13, 2020
Control X20030
Via E-MAIL