To: Home Health & Hospice Providers  
From: IEHP – Provider Relations  
Date: June 3, 2020  
Subject: COVID-19: Guidance for Infection Control & Prevention in Home Health Agencies

CMS issued critical recommendations to state and local governments, as well as Home Health Agencies, to address infection control and prevention concerning COVID-19. These recommendations will be effectively immediately.

**IN SUMMARY**

**Guidance:**
- Home Health Agencies (HHAs) should monitor the health status of everyone (patients, residents, visitors, staff, etc.) in the homecare setting for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.
- When making a home visit, HHAs should identify patients at risk for having COVID-19 infection before or immediately upon arrival to the home.
- HHAs should monitor the CDC website for information and resources and contact local health department when needed ([https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html)).
- HHAs should implement source control measures such as placing a facemask over the patient’s nose and mouth.
- HHAs should notify local and state public health authorities about the presence of a person under investigation (PUI) for COVID-19.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):**
- HHAs should take actions to mitigate any resource shortages and show they are taking all appropriate steps to obtain the necessary supplies as soon as possible.
- If there is a shortage of PPE (e.g., due to supplier(s) shortage which may be a regional or national issue), HHAs should contact the appropriate local authorities notifying them of the shortage.

The complete CMS Memo is posted on the IEHP Portal at:  
[www.iehp.org > For Providers > Plan Updates > Coronavirus (COVID-19) Advisory > CMS](http://www.iehp.org)

As a reminder, all communications sent by IEHP can also be found on our Provider portal at:  
[www.iehp.org > For Providers > Plan Updates > Correspondence or](http://www.iehp.org)
[www.iehp.org > For Providers > Plan Updates > Coronavirus (COVID-19) Advisory.](http://www.iehp.org)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the IEHP Provider Relations Team at (909) 890-2054.