A WEBINAR ON THE REVISED NURSING HOME VISITATION GUIDANCE

March 12, 2021
Agenda

I. Introduction and Moment of Silence
II. Overview of Revised Guidance
III. Q&A with Evan Shulman
IV. Initial Thoughts About the Guidance
V. Next Steps
Presenters

- Lori Smetanka, Executive Director, National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care
- Evan Shulman, Director, Division of Nursing Homes, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
- Jocelyn Bogdan, Program & Policy Specialist, National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care
- Robyn Grant, Director of Public Policy & Advocacy, National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care
A Year of Lockdown and Loss Webpage

- Join us in honoring and remembering those we’ve lost and hear directly from residents and family members about their experiences during the lockdown.

- To view the full memorial video and a resident dialogue facilitated by Dr. Susan Wehry, visit:
  - [https://theconsumervoice.org/issues/other-issues-and-resources/covid-19/year-of-lockdown](https://theconsumervoice.org/issues/other-issues-and-resources/covid-19/year-of-lockdown)
Overview of CMS Revised Visitation Guidance

Evan Shulman
Director, Division of Nursing Homes
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Initial Questions from Consumer Voice

- Enforcement
- State Implementation
- Essential Support Person/Compassionate Care
- Outbreaks
- Quarantine

(Put your questions in the Q&A box)
MARCH 10 CMS GUIDANCE: INITIAL THOUGHTS
Thank You!
Positive Change #1

An outbreak or a county positivity rate over 10% will NOT bar all residents from having visitors

• Visitation will be limited only for:
  • Unvaccinated residents, if the nursing home’s COVID-19 county positivity rate is >10% and <70% of residents in the facility are fully vaccinated
  • Residents with confirmed COVID-19 infection
  • Residents in quarantine
Positive Change #2

A confirmed case of COVID within the past 14 days will NOT shut down visitation for all residents

- If a case of COVID is confirmed in a particular unit or area and the first round of outbreak testing finds no other cases on any other units – visitation will be shut down for that unit only.
Other positives

In general, visitation is not tied to vaccination for residents

Visitors are not required to be vaccinated or tested

Personal touch is permitted

• Residents who are fully vaccinated can choose to have close contact
• Must wear a well-fitting face mask and perform hand hygiene before and after
Concern #1

• No establishment of an Essential Support Person
• Allows facilities to take actions that would prevent visits for providing care/support
Concern # 2

• *Shoulds!!*

• Inadequate or lack of enforcement
WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?
Next steps

• Take a deep dive into the guidance
• Inform and educate about the revisions
  • Webinar!
• Educate and equip residents and families to use the guidance
• Re-assess and determine our national advocacy goals and strategies
YAY, YOU!