

OUTDOOR VISITATION

- Always the preferred method because lower risk of transmission due to increased space and airflow.
- Occurs regardless of outbreak status except for residents in isolation for COVID-19.

INDOOR VISITATION

- Indoor visitation should be allowed at all times.
- Must be conducted in a manner that adheres to the core principles of infection prevention and control, including reducing risk to other residents.
- During peak times of visitation and large gatherings, nursing homes should encourage physical distancing.
- When the county is in high [community transmission](#), everyone in a healthcare setting should wear face coverings or masks.
- When the county is in low, moderate or substantial [community transmission](#), the safest practice is to continue to wear face coverings, however, the nursing home can choose not to require visitors to wear face coverings or masks, except during an outbreak.
- Regardless of community transmission level, residents and their visitors when alone (in the room or designated visiting area), may choose not to wear face coverings or masks and may choose to have close contact.
- If a roommate is present during the visit, it is safest for the visitor to wear a face covering or mask.
- If the resident is in transmission-based precautions, the visitor should be alerted to this prior to the visit. Visits must occur in the residents room. The nursing home can provide PPE for the visitor but is not required to do so.

INDOOR VISITATION DURING AN OUTBREAK

- Visitors must be aware of an outbreak investigation in the nursing home and potential risks of visit.
- Visits should be conducted in the resident room with the resident and visitor utilizing face coverings for the duration of the visit.
- While an outbreak investigation is occurring, visitor movement in the building shall be

VISITATION BY STATE AGENCIES

- Must be **allowed at all times**, regardless of outbreak or vaccination status.

CORE INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL PRINCIPLES

- Nursing homes should provide guidance about recommended actions for visitors who have a positive viral test for COVID-19, symptoms of COVID-19, or have had close-contact with someone with COVID-19. Visitors with confirmed COVID-19 infection or compatible symptoms should defer non-urgent in-person visitation until they meet CDC criteria for healthcare settings to end isolation. For visitors who have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 infection, it is safest to defer non-urgent in-person visitation until 10 days after their close contact if they meet criteria described in CDC healthcare guidance.
- Hand Hygiene, including the use of ABHR.
- Face covering or mask and physical distancing.
- Instructional signage throughout the nursing home, including specified entries, exits and routes to designated areas.
- Cleaning and disinfecting high-frequency touched surfaces, including designated visiting areas after each visit.
- Appropriate staff use of PPE.
- Effective cohorting of residents.
- Resident and staff testing conducted as required.