

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

Aging and Long-Term Support Administration PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600

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NEW DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH LONG-TERM CARE VISITATION RESOURCES

Dear Administrator/Provider/Superintendent:

The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) has developed a <u>webpage</u> to help visitors to long-term care facilities learn about basic infection control measures for preventing COVID-19 and other infectious diseases. The site has two educational videos:

- The long-term care visitation video shares basic infection prevention practices.
- The long-term care isolation precautions <u>video</u> covers the proper use of personal protective equipment when visiting someone who is in quarantine.

The site includes an informational <u>flyer</u> with a QR code that can be scanned to watch the videos. You can find related guidance documents on the site as well.

Everyone has a role in infection prevention, even visitors. Visiting someone in a long-term care facility is important for both the resident and the visitor. It can also bring the risk of illness into the building or home. These videos and related educational materials can help families and friends of residents become partners in infection prevention. Facilities may print and share these resources with visitors to give them knowledge and tools to help keep their loved ones safe.

The videos and several of the guidance documents are being translated and will be added to the webpage as they become available. If you need additional translation, please contact <u>Kathy Silverman</u>, Health Services Consultant. You may contact <u>Bonita Campo</u>, Special Projects Unit Supervisor for questions and comments about the videos.

Thank you for your continued commitment to resident health and safety.

Sincerely,

Mike Anbesse, Director Residential Care Services

DSHS: "Transforming Lives"