



Indiana
Department
of
Health

Long-term Care **NEWSLETTER**

LTC Newsletter 2023-17
August 24, 2023

LTC Update:

- **Infection Control Guidance Refresher for COVID-19**
- **Building an Infection Prevention Savvy Workforce: Free Training for LTC Professionals**
- **Free Virtual Courses for Skilled Nursing Facility Personnel**
- **Heat Wave – Reminders**
- **IDOH Health Care Leadership Conference – Registration Open**

Infection Control Guidance Refresher for COVID-19

The reports of COVID-19 cases have increased compared to previous weeks. An infection control guidance refresher for COVID-19 for LTC was presented on the Indiana Health Care Association (IHCA) regulatory round-up webinar on Aug. 24. You may access the slide deck and the recording of the presentation below.

[Weekly Regulatory Roundup Slides](#)

[Weekly Regulatory Roundup Presentation](#)

Building an Infection Prevention Savvy Workforce: Free Training for LTC Professionals

The University of Indianapolis Center for Aging & Community and the Indiana Department of Health will be hosting 11 sessions of Building an Infection Prevention Savvy Workforce for long-term care professionals. Four more sessions are still available to attend this year. These sessions will each be comprised of three half-days spread over three weeks. The virtual training sessions are

designed to provide an in-depth education on infection control with long-term care specific content and examples.

Who should attend?

Indiana long-term care professionals who are interested in infection prevention and control.

When:

Session 8: Sept. 15, 22 and 29

Session 9: Oct. 6, 13 and 20

Session 10: Oct. 18, 25 and Nov. 1

Session 11: Nov. 3, 10 and 17

Participants are required to attend all three days.

Delivery Mode:

The training is in three day, virtual training sessions. The class is designed to offer three partial days of virtual training, with a week interval between sessions. Participants are required to attend all three days. Class is 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. EDT each day. Please note that breaks will be given, but there is no lunch period.

Content:

The virtual training sessions are designed to provide in-depth education in infection control with long term care specific content and examples. The course will involve a pre-and post-test to reflect knowledge improvement. Additionally, there will be a "final exam" given after the third virtual session.

Credential:

Participants receiving a score of 75% or above on the final exam will receive a Certificate of Training: Infection Prevention in the Long-Term Care Setting. CEUs are available for Administrators and Social Workers.

To register, at no cost, please visit:

https://store.uindy.edu/catalog?pagename=Infection_Prevention

Email [Leah Jones](#) for more information.

Free Virtual Courses for Skilled Nursing Facility Personnel

The Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) and the University of Indianapolis Center for Aging & Community are offering cost-free virtual courses for skilled nursing facility personnel in three subject areas relevant to the long-term care setting. The courses are:

- [Pressure Injury Prevention and Management in Long Term Care](#)
- [Abuse and Neglect Prevention in Long Term Care](#)
- [Emergency and Disaster Management in Long Term Care](#)

Each course offers an introduction to the subject area with specific long-term care examples. Courses will be offered in September and October and various other times from 2023-2025. CEUs are available through the Indiana Department of Health for administrators and social workers. For more information and to register, click on a course name above. These courses are funded through the IDOH using Civil Money Penalty funds. If you have any questions, please contact Lidia Dubicki at the University of Indianapolis Center for Aging & Community, ldubicki@uindy.edu.

Heat Wave – Reminders

As Indiana experiences a heat wave, we want to provide some reminders: Both federal regulations and state rules require the facility to provide a safe, clean and comfortable environment for residents, staff and the public.

F584 §483.10(i) Safe Environment. The resident has a right to a safe, clean, comfortable and homelike environment, including but not limited to receiving treatment and supports for daily living safely.

§483.10(i)(6) Comfortable and safe temperature levels. Facilities initially certified after October 1, 1990 must maintain a temperature range of 71 to 81°F.

F921 §483.90(i) Other Environmental Conditions. The facility must provide a safe, functional, sanitary, and comfortable environment for residents, staff and the public.

State rule 410 IAC 16.2-3.1-19 (h) The facility must provide comfortable and safe temperature levels. (i) Each facility shall have an adequate heating and air conditioning system.

State residential rule 410 IAC 16.2-5-1.6 (c) Each facility shall have an adequate air conditioning system, as governed by applicable rules of the fire prevention and building safety commission (675 IAC). The air conditioning system shall be maintained in normal operating condition and utilized as necessary to provide comfortable temperatures in all resident and public areas.

Reporting requirements: According to state rule 410 IAC 16.2-3.1-13(g)(1) and residential state rule 410 IAC 16.2-5-1.3(g)(1), facilities are also required to report to the state incident reporting system for unusual occurrences that directly threaten the welfare, safety or health of the residents. This includes utility interruption of more than four hours in length in one or more major utilities to the facility (such as fire alarm, sprinkler system, phone services, electrical, water supply, plumbing [i.e.,

sewage disposal/backup] or heat or air conditioning); or any interruption of utility services due to nonpayment.

In addition to air conditioning, residents may require additional cold beverages and more frequent checks as the temperature remains elevated.

IDOH Health Care Leadership Conference – Registration Open

The 2023 IDOH Health Care Leadership Conference “Building a Culture of Care – Preventing Abuse in Nursing Homes” will be Tuesday, Oct. 17, in person at the Biltwell Event Center in Indianapolis. The conference will also be offered virtually. Licensed comprehensive care facilities, and representatives from long-term care provider organizations and interest groups are invited. All IDOH long-term care surveyors will also attend. Registration is open at CultureOfCare2023.com.

