

Review of COVID-19 Precautions for Independence, Inc.

Please review the following information. If any questions arise, please contact your supervisor.

NOC: (330) 414-6024

Staff Guidelines

- You are to wear you KN-95 mask and either a cloth mask or surgical mask when providing direct services
 - When you do have to remove your mask please make sure you are 6 ft away, or in a private area and then follow up by cleaning the direct contact areas.
 - If your KN-95 mask is lost, damaged, or compromised, you must contact your manager or HR immediately.
- Staffs temperature should be taken prior to shift
 - If staff has a fever, they will contact NOC for further instruction
- Staff will sign in upon entry of shift and answer the following questions to the best of his/her ability:
 - Fever, Cough, Shortness of Breath
 - Traveled out of Country the past 14 days
 - Exposed to someone confirmed with COVID19
 - Temperature of 100.4F or greater
- Staff and individual(s) will be encouraged to have 6ft of distance between them when possible.
- If staff comes to work showing symptoms, call the AOC (330.807.1645) before they interact with the individual(s). NOTE: If no answers after second call contact NOC.

Guidelines for Individual(s)

- Temperatures of the individual(s) are to be taken 2x, daily.
 - AM and PM med times
 - If the individual(s) has a fever, this will be documented and NOC will be notified for further instructions
- If an individual(s) or staff would test positive for COVID-19 the county health department will be notified and we will follow the directions they give us.
- Staff will check the following symptoms Cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, malaise, nasal congestion, nausea, diarrhea, loss of taste and smell
- If the individual(s) has an active COVID-19 case, they will not be allowed to go to their day program, place of employment, go home, out in the community, or receive any visitors.
 - They are to be fully isolated.

Visitation Guidelines

- Visitations will be by appointment only for one hour, as long as there is not active COVID-19 case following the following procedure:

- Staff will complete visitation checklist
 - If visitor has a temperature over 100F they will need to reschedule
- Visitors are required to wear a mask that covers their entire face
 - If visitor does not have one, they will need to reschedule
- Hand sanitizer will be provided to all visitors to wash hands prior to visit
- The visit will occur outside
 - Keeping a 6-foot distance
- Individual(s) will wash hands after visit
- Staff will disinfect chairs/furniture after visit

Individual(s) Going Out in the Community

- As long as the individual(s) are not COVID-19 positive and they are not considered HIGH RISK then the individual(s) are allowed to go out in the community. The following procedure must take place:
 - Temperature of the individual(s) will be taken prior to departure
 - Staff will ask how the individual(s) feels and will go through the signs and symptoms checklist
 - Mask will be provided to the individual(s) and are encouraged to be worn
 - Hand sanitizer will be provided for both individuals and staff. This should be utilized often during the outing
 - When arriving home, the individual(s) will promptly change clothes. Face mask and clothing will be washed immediately
 - When arriving home, individual(s) will shower immediately. Staff will disinfect any touched surfaces (doorknobs, sinks, facet, etc. after their shower)
 - Staff will also clean and disinfect vehicle, if applicable.

PEACE Guidelines

- If Portage County would go into the color Purple PEACE will close until we reach at least the color Red as a county.
- If an individual has a temperature of 100.4 or higher they will need to stay home for the day.
- PEACE will check the following symptoms Cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, malaise, nasal congestion, nausea, diarrhea, loss of taste and smell.
 - These symptoms should all be checked by the home each morning.
 - If the home would find an individual has any of these symptoms they should call the NOC.
 - The NOC will then inform PEACE if the individual should be attending or staying home for the day and until symptoms resolve or cleared by a doctor, or negative COVID test.

Disinfecting/Sanitizing

- Cleaning and disinfection will be occurring on all shifts of all hard surfaces within our locations.
- Steps to help prevent spread of Coronavirus:
 - Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (sing Happy Birthday 2 times).
 - Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
 - Cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing.
 - DO NOT touch face with hands (i.e., mouth, eyes, and nose).
 - Stay home when sick.
- Disinfect:
 - House
 - Household items and hard surfaces
 - Door knobs, handles, light switches, microwave touch pad, etc.
 - Computer keys
 - Cell Phones
 - Vehicles before and after transport
- When entering and leaving homes make sure you wash your hands or sanitize your hands.
- After leaving homes and once home remove your clothing, wash clothes immediately and shower. You cannot wear the same clothes without washing them.
- Handwashing:
 - Wash hands with soap and water often, but especially in between EVERY individual, no matter what you are doing for them. Employees can sanitize if no visible contamination. Wash your entire hands thoroughly.

Information Regarding Most Commonly Used Disinfectants:

- Bleach
 - According to the EPA “List N Tool: COVID-19 Disinfectants”
 - Kills a harder-to-kill pathogen than SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19); Emerging viral pathogen claim
 - Follow instruction on the back of the bottle
 - Typical contact time is between 0.5-10 mins (depending on the brand)
 - The contact time is the amount of time the treated surface should remain wet to be effective against SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19). The surface should be visibly wet for the full duration of the contact time.
- Lysol Disinfectant Spray
 - According to the EPA “List N Tool: COVID-19 Disinfectants”
 - Tested against SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19); Emerging viral pathogen claim
 - Typical contact time is 2 mins
- Lysol Disinfectant Wipes
 - According to the EPA “List N Tool: COVID-19 Disinfectants”
 - Tested against SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19); Emerging viral pathogen claim

- Typical contact time is 2 mins

Information Regarding Most Commonly Used Hand Sanitizer

- Germ-x Hand Sanitizer
 - According to germxonline.com contains “Ethyl alcohol 62%”
- Hello Bello Hand Sanitizer
 - According to hellobello.com contains “(ACTIVE) ALCOHOL 80%”
- Rejuvenate By Dr Brite Citrus Hand Sanitizer
 - According to www.drbrite.com contains “70% Isopropyl Alcohol (v/v)”

**The CDC stated that hand sanitizer should contain at least 60% alcohol (also known as ethanol, ethyl alcohol, isopropanol, or 2-propanol) to protect against COVID-19

Information Regarding COVID-19 Vaccination

COVID-19 virus (SARS-COV-2) infection is a severe acute respiratory syndrome that affects the United States and worldwide. Health care workers are some of the most exposed population to COVID-19. The CDC and the DODD highly recommend that “healthcare workers get vaccinated against COVID-19”. Since 2020, there has been a development of three different COVID-19 vaccinations: Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson/ Janssen. Each vaccination is safe, effective, and free of charge.

How Does the Vaccination Work?

According to the CDC, the COVID-19 vaccination is an effective way to prevent you from getting the COVID-19 virus. If you were to contract the virus, the vaccination will help you from becoming seriously ill. Through the vaccines, our immune system is taught how to recognize and fight the virus. 2 weeks after obtaining the full vaccination, the body is considered to have built up immunity against the virus.

Common Side Effects

If you receive a second shot, side effects may be more intense.

- On the arm (where the vaccination is administered)
 - Pain
 - Redness
 - Swelling
- Throughout the rest of the body
 - Tiredness
 - Headache
 - Muscle Pain
 - Chills
 - Fever
 - Nausea

Ways to Help Relieve Side Effects

The CDC recommends talking to your doctor about taking over-the-counter medications, such as ibuprofen, for any pain or discomfort after the vaccination. You may take an over-

the-counter medication to relive side-effects if you have no other medical reasons that prevent you from taking them normally. **It is not advised to take the medication before the vaccination with the purpose to prevent side effects.**

- Reduce pain and discomfort on the arm
 - Apply a clean, cool, wet washcloth over the area
 - Use or exercise your arm
- Reduce discomfort from fever
 - Drink plenty of fluids
 - Dress Lightly

When to Call the Doctor

- If the redness or tenderness where you got the shot worsens after 24 hours
- If your side effects are worrying you or do not seem to be going away after a few days

Additional Information Regarding Each Vaccination

- Pfizer-BioNTech
 - Requires 2 doses to be fully vaccinated, 21 days apart
 - Does NOT Contain: Eggs, preservatives, latex
 - Type of Vaccine: mRNA
- Moderna
 - Requires 2 doses to be fully vaccinated, 28 days apart
 - Does NOT Contain: Eggs, preservatives, latex
 - Type of Vaccine: mRNA
- Johnson & Johnson/ Janssen

According to the CDC, women younger than 50 years old should be aware of the rare risk of blood clots with low platelets after vaccination. Other COVID-19 vaccines have not seen this risk.

 - Requires 1 dose to be fully vaccinated
 - Does NOT Contain: Eggs, preservatives, latex
 - Type of Vaccine: Viral Vector

Who Should NOT Get Vaccinated

- If you have had a severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) or an immediate allergic reaction to any ingredients in the vaccines.
 - Please visit <https://www.fda.gov/> for the full list of ingredients.
- If you are allergic to PEG, you should not get an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine. Ask your doctor if you can get the J&J/Janssen vaccine.
- If you are allergic to polysorbate, you should not get the J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine. Ask your doctor if you can get an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine.

For more information please visit:

<https://cfpub.epa.gov/wizards/disinfectants/>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/disinfecting-your-home.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/hand-sanitizer.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/hand-sanitizer-use.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/specific-groups/allergies.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/different-vaccines.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/expect/after.html>

<https://www.fda.gov/>

<https://dodd.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/dodd/health-and-welfare/health-and-welfare-alerts>

March 2020 (Infection Control)

January 2021 (Know that Facts About the COVID-19 Vaccine)