

## **Infection Control Steps When a Client Tests Positive for COVID- 19**

### **Separate Client from Others in the Home**

- Staff instructs/reminds the affected client to remain in bedroom and limit movement around the house
  - ✓ Staff are to do their best to keep the affected client isolated in their bedroom – absolutely NO force or restraint will be used to keep the affected client in their bedroom
- Staff instructs/reminds affected client to use one designated bathroom
- Staff recommends that other clients remain in their bedrooms, if feasible and stay at least 6 feet from others
  - ✓ Where possible, staff arranges furniture, so clients are 6 feet from each other
- Staff checks on affected client routinely (at least every 30 minutes) and provides method for client to alert staff (e.g., bell, doorbell ringer, etc.)
- Staff instructs/reminds affected client to wash hands frequently
- Staff instructs/reminds affected client to wear face mask when in contact with staff or when affected client has to leave bedroom (e.g., use bathroom, attend medical appointment)
  - ✓ If the affected client is not able to tolerate the mask or refuses to wear the mask, staff will wear mask and limit affected client's contact with housemates
- Staff instructs/reminds affected clients to cover mouth with a tissue when coughs or sneezes, dispose of tissue in lined trash can and then wash or sanitize their hands
- Staff posts sign near affected client's bedroom indicating Droplet-Contact Precautions and required personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Staff provides tissue in the affected client's bedroom with a lined trash bin
- Staff provides meals to the affected client in their bedroom
  - ✓ Affected client uses disposable cups if able to handle
  - ✓ If affected client requires staff presence for eating, staff wears mask and stays in the affected client's bedroom

### **Communicate with Designated Individuals**

- The Area Director informs all staff that work with or will work with the client regarding the status and impact of COVID-19 in the program
- The Area Director informs the guardian (and family members if informed consent is given) regarding the status and impact of COVID-19 in the program
  - ✓ The Area Director documents the contact in ECP for the client
- The Area Director informs the MCO team regarding the status and impact of COVID-19 in the program
  - ✓ The Area Director documents the contact in ECP for each client
- The registered nurse (RN) contacts the client's housemates' primary care provider regarding the living situation with a housemate that has tested positive
  - ✓ The RN provides instruction for care of the client and housemates to the staff
  - ✓ The RN documents the contact and instructions for care for each client
- As directed, the Drea Director will inform the client's housemates, housemate's MCO teams and guardians

- The registered nurse will serve as the point of contact should it be requested by the local health department

#### **Ensure Needed Supplies and Resources are Available**

- Staff places alcohol-based hand sanitizers for hand hygiene inside and outside of the client's bedroom (if safe for the client to have it in their room), bathroom and common areas
- Staff ensures soap and paper towels are adequately supplied at each sink
- Staff places required PPE outside of client's bedroom and in other areas of client care (i.e., bathroom)
- Staff positions trash bin near the exit inside of the client's bedroom to make it easy for staff to discard PPE after removal, prior to exiting the room
- Staff ensures adequate supply of disinfectants (i.e., bleach) are in the home for the cleaning of high-touch surfaces
  - ✓ Staff contacts supervisor when supplies are running low

#### **Increase Preventative Measures**

- Staff continues with screening of temperature and symptoms upon arrival for work
- Staff continues with screening of each client's temperatures and symptoms
  - ✓ If another client displays symptoms, staff calls the client's primary care provider/nurse advisor and inform of symptoms and that household member tested positive
- Staff continues to enforce no visitors in the home
- Staff continues with FREQUENT hand hygiene – washing hands for 20 seconds
- Staff increases reminders to clients to perform FREQUENT hand hygiene – washing hands for 20 seconds
- Staff increases reminders to clients not to touch eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Staff instructs/reminds client to use a separate bathroom from the affected client
- Staff increases environmental cleaning of all high-touch surfaces using bleach-water solution
- Staff ensures good air flow in common spaces by opening window(s) if weather permits

#### **Use Precautionary Measures When Providing Care to Affected Client**

- Staff knocks on client's bedroom door and asks client to put on their face mask
  - ✓ If client unable or refuses to wear mask, staff wears face mask during any contact with affected client
- Staff washes hands or uses hand sanitizer before entering affected client's bedroom
- Staff puts on disposable gloves upon entry into client's bedroom/bathroom
- As directed by the physician, staff takes the affected client's temperature and monitors symptoms
  - ✓ Staff documents temperature and symptoms in ECP
  - ✓ If affected client is sicker (i.e., increased fever, difficulty breathing, increased coughing, etc.), staff calls primary healthcare provider and informs that client has laboratory-confirmed COVID-19, follow directions and then contacts supervisor/on-call supervisor
  - ✓ If affected client has a medical emergency (i.e., difficulty breathing, shortness of breath, persistent pressure or pain in chest, inability to arouse, bluish lips, etc.), staff calls 911 and informs dispatch personnel that client has COVID-19 and then contacts supervisor/on-call supervisor

- Daily, staff cleans all high-touch surfaces in the affected client's bedroom (i.e., doorknob, light switch, lamp switch, bedside table, tablet, phone, etc.) using bleach-water solution
- When removing client bedding or laundry to wash, staff wears gown and gloves
  - ✓ Staff immediately washes clothing or bedding with blood, stool or other body fluids on them
  - ✓ Staff does not shake dirty laundry
  - ✓ Staff launders dirty laundry in warmest appropriate water setting for the items separate from other clients' laundry
  - ✓ Staff disinfects clothes hamper or uses a disposable bag liner
- Staff removes and discards gloves (and other PPE) when leaving client's room in a lined trashcan
  - ✓ Staff first removes and disposes of gloves
  - ✓ Staff cleans hands with hand sanitizer
  - ✓ Staff next removes and disposes of facemask
  - ✓ Staff cleans hands with hand sanitizer
- If shortage of gowns, staff uses gowns for care activities where splashes or sprays are anticipated and for high-contact client care activities (e.g., dressing, bathing, providing hygiene, changing briefs, assisting with toileting, changing linens, wound care, transferring)