



COVID-19 Guidance and Updates for Nursing Homes and Adult Care Homes

Presented by:

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- Kaylee Hervey**, Epidemiology Program Manager, Sedgwick County Health Department
- Cody Charvat**, KCEM, Operations Officer, Sedgwick County Emergency Management

March 26, 2021



Today's presentation is being recorded.

Recording will be available at:

<https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/covid-19/covid-19-guidance-for-long-term-care-facilities/>



Introductions

Monica Cissell, Director of Information and
Community Services, CPAAA

Kaylee Hervey, Epidemiology Program Manager
Sedgwick County Health Department

Cody Charvat, KCEM, Operations Officer
Sedgwick County Emergency Management



Agenda

- Introductions
- Questions, Discussion, Monthly Updates
- COVID-19 Updates
- SCHED NP/Saliva Testing
- CMS and KDADS Testing/Reporting Requirements
- COVID-19 Vaccine Updates
- SC EOC/KDEM (PPE Stopgap Program and N95 Decontamination)
- Sedgwick County Phase 2 Metrics
- CMS/KDADS Compassionate Care, Indoor, Outdoor, Window Visitation
- Q & A with Presenters/Resources



Questions & Discussion

Following the presentation, everyone will have an opportunity for comments, conversations and Q/A.

Please submit your questions to the chat box.



Monthly Meetings

This forum allows Sedgwick County to:

- Provide updates
- Maintain ongoing contact
- Be responsive to needs of Nursing Homes and Adult Care Homes

Partners are invited to submit topic ideas/best practices for monthly meetings.

Next meeting is scheduled for: **April 30, 2021, 2 – 3 p.m.**



COVID-19 Update



COVID-19 Updates

30,081,432 cases in United States (JH / 03-26-2021)

300,927 cases in Kansas (KDHE / 03-24-2021)

45,536 cases in Sedgwick County (SC Data DB / 03-25-2021)

576 deaths in Sedgwick County (SC Data DB / 03-25-2021)

86 total adult care home clusters and **706** active cases



COVID-19 Testing Services

SCHD

**Nasopharyngeal Specimen (NP)
Saliva Testing
for
Adult Care Homes**



COVID-19 Testing Services

Adult care home staff can receive no-cost, walk-in testing through SCHED at Sedgwick County Park - Sunflower Shelter:

6501 W. 21st St, Wichita

Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to noon

No appointment needed, first come, first serve

- Test results are generally available within **12-24 hours**.
- If staff or resident tests positive, other staff and residents in the facility should be tested per SCHED and KDHE recommendations.



COVID-19 Testing Services

Sedgwick County residents, with or without symptoms, can receive no-cost, walk-in testing through SCHED at Sedgwick County Park - Sunflower Shelter:

- **6501 W. 21st St., Wichita**
 - **Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to noon**
 - *No appointment needed, first come, first served*
- County residents without symptoms can be tested once.
- Test results are generally available within **12-24 hours**.



COVID-19 Testing Services

The procedure for **COVID-19 testing of Long-Term Care Facility Employees** can be viewed at:

<https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/covid-19/testing-information/covid-19-testing-for-long-term-care-facility-employees/>



CMS and KDADS COVID-19 Testing Requirements



Nursing Facility/Adult Care Home Testing

Presently, *routine testing intervals* must continue for staff who have received the COVID-19 vaccination.

CMS certified Long-Term Care (LTC) Facility Testing Requirements for Staff and Residents (pertains to those facilities that must comply with **QSO-20-38-NH**).

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-38-nh.pdf>

Executive Order 20-69: KDADS licensed Adult Care Home Testing Requirements for Staff and Residents (pertains to state licensed facilities per K.S.A. 39-923(a)).

https://governor.kansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/EO-20-69-Adult-Care-Homes-Covid-Testing_Executed.pdf



CMS Final Rule on Nursing Facility Testing

Interim Final Rule (IFC), **CMS-3401-IFC**, established as Additional Policy and Regulatory Revisions in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency related to:

- Long-Term Care (LTC) Facility Testing Requirements
- Revised COVID-19 Focused Survey Tool
- Testing of staff and residents with COVID-19 symptoms or signs
- Testing of staff and residents in response to an outbreak
- Routine testing of staff based on county positivity rate

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-38-nh.pdf>



CMS Final Rule on Nursing Facility Testing

CDC Guidance for SARS-CoV-2 Point-of-Care (POC) Testing
(updated 03-12-2021)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/lab/point-of-care-testing.html>

- Regulatory Requirements for POC Testing
- Who can do POC testing?
 - Sites that perform POC testing are required to have a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) certificate.



Executive Order - Adult Care Home Testing

Governor Kelly's Executive Order 20-69 requires KDADS licensed facilities to perform:

- Testing of staff and residents with COVID-19 symptoms or signs
- Testing of staff and residents in response to an outbreak
- Routine testing of staff based on county positivity rate

https://governor.kansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/EO-20-69-Adult-Care-Homes-Covid-Testing_Executed.pdf



KDADS Nursing Facilities – Use KDHE Positivity Rate

KDADS guidance issued October 27, 2020, requires nursing facilities to use the two-week county positivity rate published by Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) at:

<https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/160/COVID-19-in-Kansas>

- The testing positivity rate by county is found by clicking the box labeled:

Nursing Home Metrics



Nursing Facility Testing – KDHE Positivity Rate

Kansas Department of Health and Environment Positivity Rate for Sedgwick County: **2.4 %**

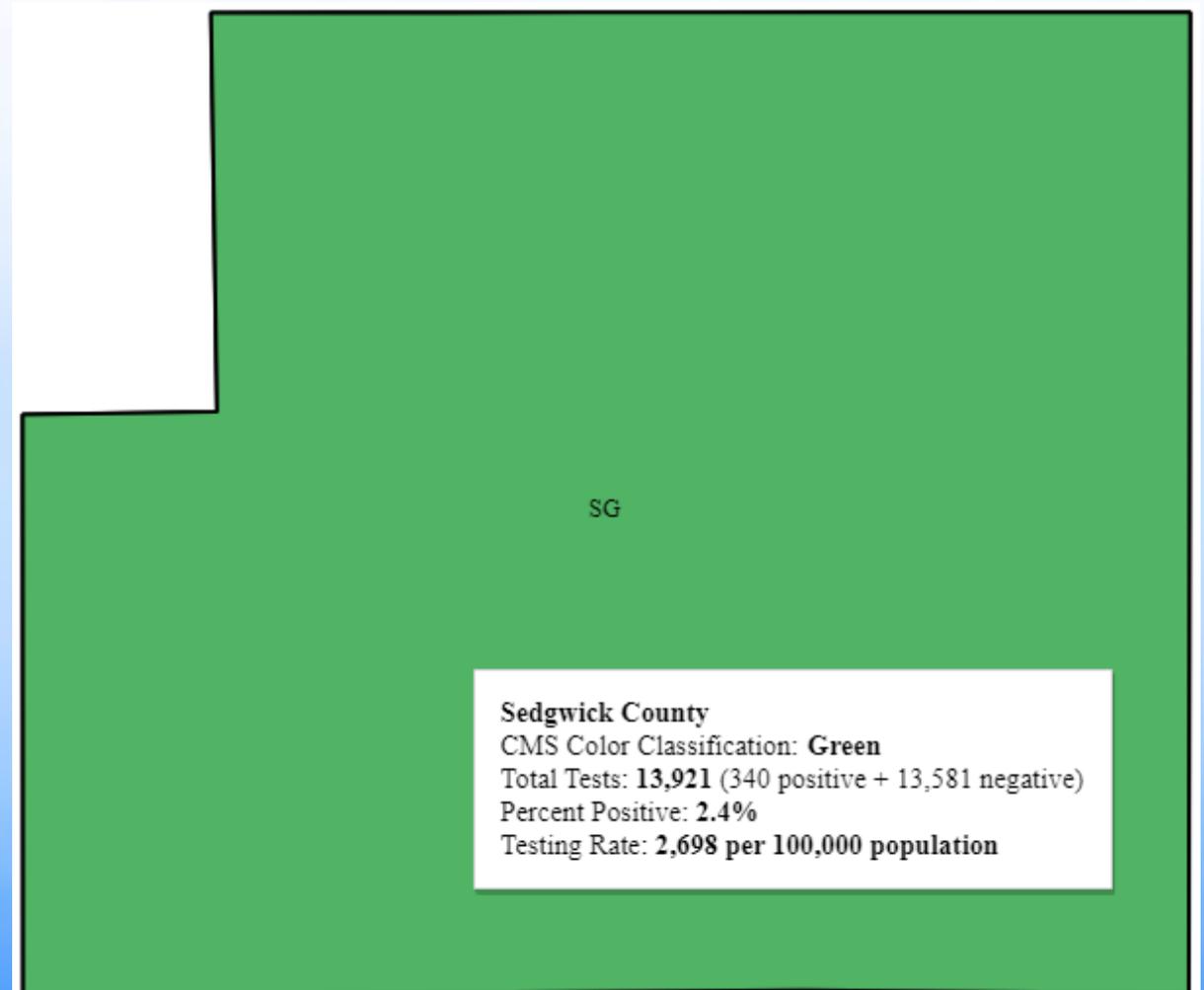
<https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/160/COVID-19-in-Kansas>

[select Nursing Home Metrics]

Current Rolling 14-Day Period:

Starting 03-07-2021

Ending 03-20-2021





KDADS Nursing Facility - Kansas COVID-19 Unified Testing Strategy/Report

KDADS Long-term Care Testing Strategy (Kansas COVID-19 Unified Testing Strategy):

<https://www.kdads.ks.gov/ltc-covid-19-testing-strategy>

KDADS Long Term Care: COVID 19 Testing Status Report is published and to be updated weekly at:

https://www.kdads.ks.gov/docs/default-source/covid-19/ach-data/testing-strategy/updated-testing-status-report-1-3-20.pdf?sfvrsn=6bf001ee_2



COVID-19 Testing and Reporting – CMS Funded Facilities

KDHE opened reporting portal for mandated facilities via BINAX rapid test. [<https://diseasereporting.kdhe.ks.gov/>]

If facility is CMS funded and if test is positive, then individual must be NP tested within **48 hours**.



CMS Reporting Requirements for Nursing Homes



Nursing Home CMS Reporting Requirements

All COVID-19 testing results are required to be reported.

- All **point-of-care** and **send out specimens** are required to be reported via the KDHE reporting portal:

<https://diseasereporting.kdhe.ks.gov/>

KDHE reports to CMS are sent on behalf of Nursing Homes.

- All results are available to local health departments.

Facilities with questions may contact KDHE at:

kdhe.EpiHotline@ks.gov



COVID-19 Vaccine



COVID-19 Vaccine Pharmacy Partnership

The deadline to enroll in the Federal Pharmacy Partnership for Long-Term Care Program for COVID-19 Vaccination has passed.

Facilities enrolled in the Pharmacy Partnership Program may deal directly with CVS or Walgreens.

For questions about the Pharmacy Partnership for Long-term Care Program, please contact eocevent494@cdc.gov.



COVID-19 Vaccine Pharmacy Partnership

COVID-19 vaccine administration at nursing facilities and adult care homes may continue as follows:

- Facilities wanting subsequent COVID-19 vaccine administration at their facility may contact the initial CVS or Walgreens that held clinics at their location.
- Facilities may also contact other locally enrolled, approved pharmacy partners for vaccination clinics at their sites.
- A pharmacy places an order with SCHED, which in turn transfers the vaccine to the pharmacy.



COVID-19 Vaccine Assistance - Pharmacy Partnership and Vaccine Provider

Facilities wanting assistance partnering with a pharmacy for vaccines or needing guidance in becoming a vaccine provider may contact SCHED at:

MedDistribution@Sedgwick.gov



SCHD COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics

Staff from nursing homes and adult care homes may make an appointment using the SCHD vaccine scheduler for vaccinating at future SCHD vaccine clinic locations:

<https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/covid-19/vaccine>



Federal Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination

Federal Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination is a collaboration between the federal government, states and territories, national pharmacy partners and independent pharmacy networks to increase access to COVID-19 vaccination across the United States.

Currently, the partnership involves 21 national pharmacy partners and independent pharmacy networks, representing over 40,000 retail and long-term care pharmacy locations nationwide.



Federal Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination – CDC Guidance

Facilities wanting to participate directly with the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination may review CDC guidance:

- Understanding the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination:
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/retail-pharmacy-program/index.html>
- Pharmacies Participating in the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program:
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/retail-pharmacy-program/participating-pharmacies.html>
- Federal Retail Pharmacy Partnership Program for COVID-19 Vaccination FAQs:
<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/retail-pharmacy-program/faqs.html>



COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Enrollment

Facilities wanting to serve as vaccine providers may review

KDHE COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Enrollment guidance at:

<https://kanphix.kdhe.state.ks.us/KDHECDCCovidVaccineEnroll/>

For questions, call or email:

1-877-296-0464 or kdhe.COVIDenrollment@ks.gov



COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Enrollment

More information on provider enrollment through KDHE may be found in the **Kansas COVID-19 Vaccination Plan**, Section 5: COVID-19 Provider Recruitment and Enrollment (pages 20-21)

<https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1533/COVID-19-Vaccination-Plan-for-Kansas-Version12-1142020?bidId=>

Kansas COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Enrollment FAQs

<https://www.kansasvaccine.gov/DocumentCenter/View/119/COVID-19-Provider-Enrollment-FAQs---10282020-PDF>



CDC COVID-19 Vaccine References

Updated Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations in Response to COVID-19 Vaccination

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-after-vaccination.html>

Importance of COVID-19 Vaccination for Residents of Long-term Care Facilities

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/LTCF-residents.html>

Clinical Resources for Each COVID-19 Vaccine <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/index.html>

Clinical Care Considerations for COVID-19 Vaccination <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/index.html>

Reporting COVID-19 Vaccination Data for Long-Term Care Facilities

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/distributing/long-term-care-facility-vaccination-data.html>

COVID-19 Vaccination Program Provider Requirements and Support <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/vaccination-provider-support.html>

How to Enroll as a Healthcare Provider <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/provider-enrollment.html>

Importance of trained healthcare professionals <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/training-education/index.html>



COVID-19 Services

REQUESTING and ORDERING PPE and N95 Respirator Decontamination Process



KDADS K.S.A. 39-923

Facilities licensed by Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) may request/order PPE through the Kansas Division of Emergency Management (KDEM) Business PPE Stopgap Program.

● nursing facility	● nursing facility for mental health
● assisted living facility	● residential healthcare facility
● home plus	● intermediate care facility for people with intellectual disability
● adult day care facility	● boarding care home



COVID-19 PPE Services

Before ordering PPE from **KDEM**, facility must try to order direct from vendor(s).

If unable to purchase due to shipping delay or out of stock, facility can order through **KDEM Business PPE Stopgap application:**

<https://kdem.kansasgis.org/businessPPE>

KDEM requires evidence of unsuccessful PPE order.

- Attach “Proof of Denial” documentation indicating your facility unsuccessfully attempted to order PPE from other vendors.
- Documentation includes copies of purchase orders, invoices or remittances and states PPE is delayed or on back order.



COVID-19 PPE Services

PPE supported through the **PPE Stopgap Program** includes:

- Masks and face shields
- Gowns and coveralls
- Other PPE-related requirements, such as gloves



COVID-19 PPE Services

Important Exception:

Private business or organization with *immediate need* of PPE for emergency life-safety measures will still be able to order those supplies through **Sedgwick County Emergency Management's logistics team:**

- **HOWEVER**, there is no longer a Resource Request Form on our website, so send an email to Logistics@sedgwick.gov
- Tell us what items you need. BE SURE to include an explanation of urgent circumstances and your contact information.
- If we have questions, we'll contact you. We will fill what we can from stock on hand, and order the rest from the state.



COVID-19 PPE Services

First responders and government agencies continue to order PPE through **Sedgwick County Emergency Operations Center** (SC EOC)

NEW Shopping Cart Ordering System – If you don't already have a login account, fill out the PPE *account-request form* at <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/7232e802cc7b463585bfc2b1ee7d7963>

Direct questions to:

- **KDEM** (use email at the end of the PPE Stopgap Program application)
- **SC EOC:** logistics@Sedgwick.gov



COVID-19 N95 Decontamination Services

Battelle decontamination service ending:

- Last day to submit masks was **March 18**.

Alternative practice for decontamination:

- Provide each employee three N95 respirators.
- Purchase paper sacks or plastic bags for off-day storage.
- Employee wears each mask every third day.
- Masks self-decontaminate while not in use.



COVID-19 N95 Decontamination Services

Facility should consider developing usage policy.

Consider the following to facilitate decontamination:

- Keep N95 respirator as clean as possible to facilitate decontamination.
- Prohibit staff from wearing makeup while wearing N95 respirators to prevent contamination.
- Discard respirators with visible soiling (e.g. blood) or damage and do not send for decontamination.



UPDATES on N95 Respirators

Updates received from KDEM:

- 3M issues warning about fraudulent N95 masks, models 1860, 1860S, and 1870+.
- More details, including all models and specific lot numbers in question, can be found on the 3M website at:

https://www.3m.com/3M/en_US/worker-health-safety-us/covid19/covid-fraud/?utm_medium=redirect&utm_source=vanity-url&utm_campaign=3m.com/covidfraud



Sedgwick County

is in

- **Phase 2 for Metrics**
- **Phases 1-5 for COVID-19 Vaccination Prioritization**



Sedgwick County - Phase 2

Metrics place Sedgwick County in Phase 2 -- Percent Positive 2.1%

Recovery Metrics	Two-week Trend	Baseline before Ad Astra*		Ad Astra Phase 1		Ad Astra Phase 1.5	Ad Astra Phase 2*		Ad Astra Phase 3		Ad Astra Phase 2*										
		Week 1 (3/15)	Week 7 (4/26)	Week 1 (5/3)	Week 2 (5/10)	Week 1 (5/17)	Week 1 (5/24)	Week 7 (7/5)	Week 1 (7/12)	Week 2 (7/19)	Week 1 (7/26)	Week 25 (1/10)	Week 26 (1/17)	Week 27 (1/24)	Week 28 (1/31)	Week 29 (2/7)	Week 30 (2/14)	Week 31 (2/21)	Week 32 (2/28)	Week 33 Numbers Subject to change (3/7)	Week 34 Numbers Subject to change (3/14)
		3/21	5/2	5/9	5/16	5/23	5/30	7/11	7/18	7/25	8/1	1/16 **	1/23	1/30 **	2/6 **	2/13	2/20	2/27	3/6	3/13	3/20
New Deaths	Stable	0	5	10	2	1	0	2	3	6	7	21	11	21	15	11**	11	8	6**	5**	0
New COVID-19 Hospital Admissions †	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
New Cases per 100,000 SG Residents	Decreasing	2	17.9	7.8	12.1	6.4	8.8	126.2	134.3	148.6	134.0	324.8	277.8	255.3	197.0	117.0	82.4	64.6	52.6	38.9	28.2
New Cases	Decreasing	2	92	40	62	33	45	648	690	763	688	1668	1427	1311	1012	601	423	332	270	200	145
New Non-Cluster Cases	Decreasing	2	43	28	8	30	45	625	651	689	618	1582	1338	1247	969	576	413	315	263	194	143
New Community Disease*** Cases	Decreasing	0.4	56	33	16	32	45	646	669	738	643	1647	1406	1285	1002	594	419	329	269	200	145
New Community Disease*** Cases per 100,000 SG Residents	Decreasing	163	10.9	6.4	3.1	6.2	8.8	125.8	130.3	143.7	125.2	320.7	273.8	250.2	195.1	115.7	81.6	64.1	52.4	38.9	28.2
New Tests	Decreasing	185	1246	2217	2698	3179	2375	5411	5530	5766	6054	20089	19300	18018	17085	13859	10168	11843	10889	9034	7060
New Tests per 100,000 SG Residents	Decreasing	1.2%	243	432	525	619	462	1054	1077	1123	1179	3911	3758	3508	3326	2698	1980	2306	2120	1759	1375
New Cases Percent Positive (New case/New Tests)	Stable	1.2%	7.4%	1.8%	2.3%	1.0%	1.9%	12.0%	12.5%	13.2%	11.4%	8.3%	7.4%	7.3%	5.9%	4.3%	4.2%	2.8%	2.5%	2.2%	2.1%
New Community Disease Percent Positive (community disease/new test)	Stable	2	4.5%	1.5%	0.6%	1.0%	1.9%	11.9%	12.1%	12.8%	10.6%	8.2%	7.3%	7.1%	5.9%	4.3%	4.1%	2.8%	2.5%	2.2%	2.1%

As of March 20, 2021, most Sedgwick County COVID-19 metric trends are decreasing.

* Weeks 2 through 6 on Baseline before Ad Astra (March-April), Weeks 2 through 6 from Ad Astra Phase 2 (May-July), and Week 2 through Week 24 from Ad Astra Phase 2 (August-December) due to space constraints.

**Due to lag in reporting, positive tests and COVID-19 deaths from these weeks were added on 3/22 and 3/25.

***Community disease excludes contained cluster cases (i.e., long-term care and correctional facility residents).

† Hospital admission data are under review and will be updated soon.



Sedgwick County - Phase 2

Metrics are updated weekly at:

<https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/covid-19/covid-19-metrics/>

COVID-19 Metrics Chart: Sedgwick County Residents - March 15 through March 20, 2021

- KDHE metrics are in blue shading. This table is published on Mondays and Fridays.
- Because numbers are reported by test day and tests are sent to SCHD from different days, numbers can change from report to report.
- Most change occurs in the two most recent weeks.
- Deaths are reported by the date the patient died.



Updates on Visitation

Monica Cissell,

Director of Information and Community Services,

Central Plains Area Agency on Aging

- will present updates on visitation -



CMS and KDADS - Visitation Guidance for Nursing Facilities and Adult Care Homes

Visitation incorporates person-centered approach and adheres to core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention.



Visitation Guidance

Visitations will continue as per current CMS and KDADS guidance.

- CMS guidance mandates nursing facilities (includes nursing homes) to provide for visitation - (QSO-20-39-NH, **REVISED** March 10, 2021):

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-39-nh-revised.pdf>

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-visitation-nursing-home-residents.pdf>

- KDADS - Visitation Guidance for Long-Term Care Settings, **March 15, 2021** (includes: Assisted Living, Board Care Home, Home Plus, Nursing Facility and Residential Health Care Facilities):

https://www.kdads.ks.gov/docs/default-source/covid-19/ach-data/visitation/long-term-care-visitation-guidance-update-3-15-21.pdf?sfvrsn=84360eee_4



Visitation Guidance

Follow strict protocols on reducing risk and preventing spread of COVID-19.

- CDC Nursing Homes and Long-Term Care Facilities: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/nursing-home-long-term-care.html>
- CDC Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html>
- CDC Updated Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations in Response to COVID-19 Vaccination <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-after-vaccination.html>



Visitation Guidance

Conduct in manner to reduce COVID-19 transmission and increase prevention measures:

- Screen all visitors for symptoms of COVID-19, includes temperature check
- Residents and visitors wear a cloth face covering or facemask for the duration of their visit
- Perform hand hygiene (e.g., use alcohol-based hand rub upon entry)
- Provide sufficient space
- Practice social distancing (fully vaccinated residents may chose to have social contact- the resident and visitor are required to wear masks and perform hand hygiene before and after the visit)



KDADS – County Positivity Rate Instructions

KDADS guidance instructs adult care homes to use the **KDHE two-week county positivity rate:**

- for indoor visitation
- when making facility re-opening and visitation plans

Select Nursing Home Metrics:

<https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/160/COVID-19-in-Kansas>

SCHD Epidemiology will review facilities' *new or revised* re-opening and visitation plans with a 5-day review period.

- Email plans to Susan.Lee@sedgwick.gov



KDADS – Visitation Guidance for Long-Term Care Settings

Guidelines apply to all long-term care settings, including: nursing facility, assisted living, board care home, home plus, residential health care facilities.

Types of visitation include:

- Indoor } During Low and Medium positivity rates and according to facilities' environment and residents' needs
 - Compassionate Care
 - Outdoor
 - Window
- During Low, Medium and High Positivity Rates



KDADS – Visitation Guidance for Long-Term Care Settings

Low (<5%) or Green*

Medium (5% – 10%) or Yellow*



Visitation should occur according to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and facility policies (*beyond compassionate care visits*)

High (>10%) or Red* = Visitation should only occur for compassionate care situations according to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and facility policies

*Corresponds to Green, Yellow and Red on the KDHE county positivity rate:

<https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/160/COVID-19-in-Kansas> (select **Nursing Home Metrics**)



Visitation Guidance

When county positivity rate exceeds **10%**, **indoor visitations** are not allowed except for Compassionate Care, as per CMS and KDADS guidance.

CMS

- There have been no new, nursing home onset COVID-19 cases in the nursing home for 28 days (*through phases one and two of county metrics*)

KDADS

- There have been no new onset of COVID-19 cases in the last 14 days and the facility is not currently conducting outbreak testing



Visitation Guidance

CMS and KDADS guidance describe when **indoor visitation** *should be limited*:

- Unvaccinated residents, if the nursing home's COVID-19 county positivity rate is > 10% and <70% of residents in the facility are fully vaccinated;
- Residents with confirmed COVID-19 infection, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated until they have meet the criteria to discontinue Transmission-Based Precautions; or
- Residents in quarantine, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated, until they have meet criteria for release from quarantine.



Visitation Guidance

CMS and KDADS guidance describe when **indoor visitation** *should be limited*:

- If the first round of outbreak testing reveals no additional COVID-19 cases in other areas (e.g., units) of the facility, *then visitation can resume for residents in areas/units with no COVID-19 cases*. However, the facility should suspend visitation on the affected unit until the facility meets the criteria to discontinue outbreak testing. For example:
 - If the first round of outbreak testing reveals two more COVID-19 cases in the same unit as the original case, but not in other units, **visitation can resume for residents in areas/units with no COVID-19 cases**.
- If the first round of outbreak testing reveals one or more additional COVID-19 cases in other areas/units of the facility (e.g., new cases in two or more units), *then facilities should suspend visitation for all residents (vaccinated and unvaccinated), until the facility meets the criteria to discontinue outbreak testing*.



Visitation Guidance

Per KDADS guidance, facilities should consult with state/local health departments (SCHD) when an outbreak is identified:

- to ensure adherence to infection control precautions
- for recommendations to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission



Visitation Guidance

If a facility identifies a new resident COVID-19 case *while in any phase*, that facility goes back to the highest level of mitigation (Phase 1) and starts over (even if the community is in Phase 3).

Before a facility can relax restrictions:

CMS funded facilities:

- The facility must wait **28 days** after the last COVID-19 case recovers.

KDADS licensed facilities:

- The facility must wait **14 days** after the last COVID-19 case recovers.



Visitation Guidance

CMS and KDADS guidance discuss **outdoor visitation** is preferred and *should occur routinely for all residents* – even when resident/visitor are fully vaccinated. Considerations:

- May be limited by weather, resident's health status, facility's outbreak status
- Ensure adequate staffing and infection control and maintain visual observation with a degree of privacy
- KDADS allows for children/pets to be in control of adult who brings them

CMS revised guidance that mandates nursing facilities (includes nursing homes) to provide for visitation - (QSO-20-39-NH, **REVISED** March 10, 2021):

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-39-nh-revised.pdf>

KDADS – Revised Visitation Guidance for Long-Term Care Settings, March 15, 2021 (includes: Assisted Living, Board Care Home, Home Plus, Nursing Facility and Residential Health Care Facilities): https://www.kdads.ks.gov/docs/default-source/covid-19/ach-data/visitation/long-term-care-visitation-guidance-update-3-15-21.pdf?sfvrsn=84360eee_4



Visitation Guidance

KDADS guidance discusses **window visitation** *should occur without regard for county positivity rate or vaccination status.*

Decide whether a window visit is the right fit for the resident.

- Facilitate visit: ensure resident is aware, have adequate staffing and technology to ensure safe visitation and clear communication.
- Implement safety measures:
 - If window will be open, ensure 3 feet of space between window and resident/visitor.
 - If resident is vaccinated, they can choose to have close contact with/touch visitor.

KDADS – Revised Visitation Guidance for Long-Term Care Settings, March 15, 2021 (includes: Assisted Living, Board Care Home, Home Plus, Nursing Facility and Residential Health Care Facilities):

https://www.kdads.ks.gov/docs/default-source/covid-19/ach-data/visitation/long-term-care-visitation-guidance-update-3-15-21.pdf?sfvrsn=84360eee_4



Visitation Guidance

For **indoor Compassionate Care** visits, *during any phase and positivity rate*, facilities determine when Compassionate Care visits are appropriate, which includes, but is not limited to:

- The resident is in hospice care.
- The resident's illness/disease is worsening or life threatening.
- The resident is exhibiting significant decline physically or mentally.
- The resident is withdrawing, no longer eating, showing signs of significant depression as a result of loss of contact with family members.

CMS revised guidance that mandates nursing facilities (includes nursing homes) to provide for visitation - (QSO-20-39-NH, **REVISED** March 10, 2021): <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-39-nh-revised.pdf>

KDADS – Revised Visitation Guidance for Long-Term Care Settings, March 15, 2021 (includes: Assisted Living, Board Care Home, Home Plus, Nursing Facility and Residential Health Care Facilities): https://www.kdads.ks.gov/docs/default-source/covid-19/ach-data/visitation/long-term-care-visitation-guidance-update-3-15-21.pdf?sfvrsn=84360eee_4



KDADS - Nursing Facility Visitation Guidelines

- Guide for family members and residents on what to expect when visiting
- Visitation according to facilities' environment and residents' needs
- Follow strict protocols on reducing risk and preventing spread of COVID-19

https://www.kdads.ks.gov/images/default-source/ach-covid/new-visitation-guidelines-what-to-expect-now.jpg?sfvrsn=185101ee_0

New Nursing Facility Visitation Guidelines: What to Expect When You Visit

A guide for residents and families at nursing facilities in Kansas implement new guidance for visitation released September 17, 2020. By the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to address psychosocial needs.

Communication Is Key.

Your loved one has the right to visitors. The facility can limit access to protect your loved one and other residents. This balance is difficult, requiring close cooperation between families and friends of residents and the facility administrators.



First Steps.

- Call ahead and talk to the administration of the facility where your loved one lives:
- Ask about their plan to reopen to visitors
 - What kind of visits can happen and how – indoor, outdoor?

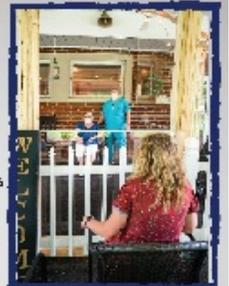


Visit Protocols.

- Visitation can be conducted differently based on the facility's environment and residents' needs. For example, visits could take place in resident rooms, dedicated visitation spaces, outdoors, and for circumstances beyond compassionate care situations. Regardless of how visits are conducted, there are certain core principles and best practices facilities should implement to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission, such as:
- Screening visitors for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (temperature checks, questions about symptoms) and denial of entry for those with signs or symptoms
 - Hand hygiene
 - Face covering or mask
 - Social distancing at least 6 feet between persons
 - Appropriate staff use of personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - Resident and staff testing as required by CMS guidelines

Outdoor Visits.

While taking a person-centered approach and adhering to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention, CMS prefers outdoor visitation that can be conducted in a manner that reduces the risk of transmission whenever practical. Outdoor visits pose a lower risk of transmission due to increased space and airflow.



Indoor Visits.

Facilities and facilities with lower medium predictability rates (10% or less) would accommodate and support indoor visitation, including visits for reasons beyond compassionate care situations, based on the following guidelines:

- No new onset of COVID-19 cases in the facility in the last 14 days and not currently conducting outbreak testing
- Visitors are able to adhere to core principles and staff are monitoring for those who have difficulty adhering to core principles, such as children
- Limit the number of visitors per resident at one time and limit the total number of visitors in the facility at one time (based on the size of the building and physical space)
- Limit movement in the facility

Compassionate Care Visits.

Allowing a visit in these situations would be consistent with the intent of compassionate care situations:

- A recently admitted resident who was living with their family before struggling with the change in environment and lack of physical family support
- A resident who is grieving after a friend or family member recently passed away
- A resident who needs cueing and encouragement with eating or drinking, previously provided by family and/or caregiver(s), is experiencing weight loss or dehydration
- A resident who used to talk and interact with others, is experiencing emotional distress, such as sleeping, or crying more frequently



Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Guidance Document [CS-20-38-NH]



Visitation Guidance

Visitors with subsequent illness within **7 days** of the visit should report their illness to the nursing facility and/or the adult care home and to the Sedgwick County Health Department.



Visitation Guidance

Guidance applies even if all staff and residents in a facility are fully vaccinated, as vaccines are not 100% effective.

CMS and KDADS: Fully vaccinated refers to a person who is:

- ≥ 2 weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series, or
- ≥ 2 weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine, per the CDC's Public Health Recommendations for Vaccinated Persons

CDC Post Vaccine Considerations for Residents:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/post-vaccine-considerations-residents.html>

“Because information is currently lacking on vaccine effectiveness in the general population; the resultant reduction in disease, severity, or transmission; or the duration of protection, residents and healthcare personnel should continue to follow all current infection prevention and control recommendations to protect themselves and others from SARS-CoV-2 infection, regardless of their vaccination status.”



Visitation Guidance

KDADS requires facilities to:

- Assess residents' visitation preferences
- Document responses onto a **Resident Visitation Preferences** questionnaire for each resident.

KDADS created a template to assist facilities in collecting this information. The template is available at:

https://www.kdads.ks.gov/docs/default-source/covid-19/hoc/resident-visitation-preferences.pdf?sfvrsn=8e390eee_2



COVID-19 Quarantine Guidance



COVID-19 Quarantine Guidance

Neither **CMS** nor **KDADS** requires residents to quarantine upon returning if they leave the facility for an appointment or an outing.

KDHE Isolation and Quarantine, Frequently Asked Questions, specifies an exception to quarantine for vaccinated inpatients and residents in healthcare settings following an exposure:

- Vaccinated inpatients and residents in healthcare settings should continue to quarantine following an exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.
- If the exposed person becomes symptomatic, they should be tested via PCR or antigen test.

KDHE Isolation and Quarantine, Frequently Asked Questions:

<https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/DocumentCenter/View/134/Isolation--Quarantine-Guidance-and-FAQs-PDF---3-15-21?bidId=>



RESOURCES



RESOURCES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Coronavirus

<https://www.cms.gov/medicare/quality-safety-oversight-general-information/coronavirus>

Kansas Department of Health and Environment <http://www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus/>

Kansas Department of Emergency Management https://www.kansastag.gov/kdem_default.asp

Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services <https://www.kdads.ks.gov>

Sedgwick County Health Department <https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/>

Central Plains Area Agency on Aging <https://www.cpaaa.org/coronavirus-resources>

Strategies to Mitigate Healthcare Personnel Staffing Shortages (*updated March 10, 2021*)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/mitigating-staff-shortages.html>



RESOURCES

Past webinars presented to Long-Term Care Facilities and Adult Care Homes may be viewed on the *Sedgwick County COVID-19 Resource webpage*:

<https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/covid-19/covid-19-guidance-for-long-term-care-facilities/>



RESOURCES

Facilities having follow-up questions or comments may email them to:

Susan Lee

Information and Guidance Coordinator - COVID-19

Sedgwick County Health Department

Susan.Lee@sedgwick.gov



**This concludes today's presentation.
Thank you for participating.**

Next is Q&A



Questions?

Participants' questions asked in the chat box will be answered by presenters.

Next Webinar

April 30, 2021 – 2 to 3 p.m.