Week 1: Program Introduction & Infection Control – Limiting the Spread

Session Information
Session Topic: Curriculum Overview and Preventing and Limiting the Spread of COVID-19 in nursing homes
National Expert Presenter(s):   - Alice Bonner, PhD, RN, Senior Advisor – Aging, Institute for Healthcare Improvement   - Lisa Thomson, BA, LNHA, HSE, CIMT; Chief Strategy and Marketing Officer, Pathway Health   - Susan LaGrange, RN, BSN, NHA, CDONA, FACDONA, CIMT, IP-BC; Director of Education, Pathway Health

Program Introduction	
Learning Objectives: - Establish a shared vision for the program - Describe curriculum for 16-week program	**Required Resources:** - Video: *Orientation to ECHO Model & Use for COVID-19* - Introductory PowerPoint presentation on curriculum and higher logic

COVID-19 Content: Preventing and Limiting the Spread of COVID-19 in nursing homes
Presentation Title: Preventing and Limiting the Spread of COVID-19 in nursing homes **Session Description:** This presentation will address key important and realistic approaches, consistent with current guidance, that health care workers can implement to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 for Long-term Care Professionals. **Learning Objectives**:   - Identify practical strategies for preventing the spread of COVID-19 in nursing homes   - Identify opportunities that allow teams to improve the care and close gaps that may contribute to COVID-19 spread.
Special Considerations: What are the special challenges that might face nursing homes in rural areas in mitigating the risk of COVID-19?
Required Resources   - Video: *Stopping the Spread of COVID-19*   **Supplementary Resources**:   - CDC: Infection Prevention and Control Assessment Tool for Nursing Homes Preparing for COVID-19

- [CMS: QAPI at a Glance](#)
- [CMS: QAPI Self-Assessment Tool](#)

Quality Improvement: What is QAPI and how can it support this work

Learning Objectives:

- Identify connection between your COVID-19 improvement work and your QAPI processes
- Describe the key elements of an effective improvement team

Required Resources:

Video: *Introduction to QAPI in Nursing Homes*

Activity:

- Review your internal QAPI plan and note any alignment and adjustment needed to support this work

Discussion

Guided Questions
- Is there a clear outline for screening procedures that is known by all relevant staff?
- Do staff know who to contact when someone fails the screening?
- Based on your experience and what you've seen today, what's missing?
- How do the aims of this program align with your current QAPI plan?

Sample Case & Case Questions
Many states have restricted nursing home visitation by family members/care partners for several months. Visits have been limited to outdoor areas, with a series of screening questions, temperature checks, social distancing (6 feet or more), masks for all visitors, hand hygiene. Now some states are relaxing those guidelines and permitting indoor visitation with certain protocols. Staff, owners and local municipal leaders have raised concerns about indoor visits possibly raising the risk of infection – for both residents and staff.
- How would you approach writing guidelines or protocols for indoor visitation if you were a Director of Nursing or Administrator?
- How would you reassure staff, families, and residents that the indoor visits will be made as safe as possible?
- How will you address vendors or other workers who need to enter the building?