

## Week 3: Infection Control & Prevention - Cohorting

<b>Session Information</b>
<b>Session Topic: Approaches to Cohorting during COVID-19</b> <b>National Expert Presenter(s):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nimalie Stone</li><li>• Kara Jacobs-Slifka</li></ul>
<b>COVID-19 Content: Approaches to Cohorting during COVID-19</b>
<b>Presentation Title:</b> Approaches to Cohorting during COVID-19 <b>Session Description:</b> This session will talk about resident cohorting some of the complexities that we've learned through this experience. It will also describe the goals, challenges, and limitations of cohorting residents during COVID-19, including the use of dedicated spaces like observation units. <b>Learning Objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review the Core Activities for COVID-19 Prevention and Response in Nursing Homes</li><li>• Describe challenges and considerations when creating resident cohorts</li></ul>
<b>Required Resources</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Video: <i>COVID – Approaches to Cohorting</i></li></ul> <b>Supplementary Resources:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">CDC: Infection Prevention and Control Assessment Tool for Nursing Homes Preparing for COVID-19</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health: Guidance on Protecting Individuals Residing in Long-Term Care Facilities</a></li><li>• AHCA and NCAL: <a href="#">Cohorting Residents to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19</a></li></ul>
<b>Quality Improvement: Conversations to Prepare for Improvement</b>
<b>Learning Objectives:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe how conversation can be leveraged to support improvement work</li><li>• Make a plan for holding 1:1 conversations/huddles with staff to hear concerns and problem solve</li></ul>

**Required Resources:**

- Conversation and Action [guide](#) to support staff wellbeing

**Activity:**

- Hold huddles with 5 staff using 3 guiding questions provide

**Discussion****Guided Questions**

- Does your facility have a plan in place for managing units when a new case of COVID-19 is detected?
- Does your facility have an observation unit? What PPE protocols have been put in place on that unit?
- What are the ideas that interest you from this presentation? What processes would you need to adopt or adapt?
- Are staff members able to articulate how and when to cohort COVID-19 positive and negative residents throughout the entire center?
- Can each staff member describe how they integrate resident cohorting into their workflows?

**Sample Case & Case Questions**

Local, county and state data reflect a rise in COVID-19 case rates and deaths in your county and its cities and towns. With community transmission rates near or over 10%, changes to COVID-19 testing protocols for staff and residents will be put into place.

In addition, the administrator, DON and Medical Director have made the decision to limit visitation to outdoor visits only. Contractors/vendors will be limited to essential workers/deliveries. All new admissions will be quarantined in a specially designated area (unit) for 14 days, regardless of COVID-19 test status (positive or negative).

- Where would you look for information about testing frequency and other protocol details? Who would you ask for updated or current practices?
- Is there written information for residents, family members and/or care partners about cohorting and visitation? Are you able to access those resources on evenings, nights, weekends?
- Would you know where to locate a room for any new admission to the center? Is there a COVID-19 positive unit/wing and an area or wing for residents who have come into contact with someone who is COVID-19 positive and is under observation for a period of time?