



## Technical Bulletin



Date: March 23, 2020

Topic: Home Health Personnel entering Residential Facilities for Groups and Homes for Individual Residential Care

Contact: Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance Carson City Office at 775-684-1030 or Las Vegas Office at 702-486-6515

To: All Residential Facilities for Groups and Homes for Individual Residential Care

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The purpose of this technical bulletin is to provide clarification and guidance to Residential Facilities for Groups and Homes for Individual Residential Care Facilities regarding the need to allow home health personnel continued access to patients/residents for the provision of physician-ordered skilled care.

The Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance has received numerous reports of Residential Facilities for Groups and Homes for Individual Residential Care Facilities denying access to residents by Home Health Agency personnel to provide necessary skilled nursing, therapy and social services for their residents.

These residents are under the care of their individual physicians who have ordered home health services because they were determined to be medically necessary.

While we appreciate your desire to protect your residents, as well as the staff who are providing vital services for them, it is imperative that home health personnel be granted access so they may follow the physician orders to ensure the residents' continued well-being.

Therefore, Residential Facilities for Groups and Homes for Individual Residential Care Facilities should grant home health agency personnel with orders to provide medical, therapy and social services access to their patients residing in these facilities.

The screening process for visitors, including health care workers as described by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is appropriate and should be strictly followed. Procedures should be in place for the facility if a resident is exhibiting signs and symptoms for COVID-19.

- Please reference the following link for guidance: <https://www.cms.gov/medicareprovider-enrollment-and-certificationsurveycertificationgeninfopolicy-and/guidance-infection-control-and-prevention-concerning-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-home-health>

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