

NCCMH ORR Update: Current COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Expectations

April 1, 2021

It is North Country CMH's expectation that all staff and contracted providers will follow the most current orders and guidelines. To help staff stay in compliance, the following document was created to summarize the most current state and federal directives.

Note: If one order appears to be in conflict with another, the most restrictive/stringent order applies.

[MDHHS Epidemic Order](#) Expires 4/19/21

"Face mask" means a tightly woven cloth or other multi-layer absorbent material that closely covers an individual's mouth and nose.

"Gathering" means any occurrence, either indoor or outdoor, where **two** or more persons from more than one household are present in a shared space.

All persons participating in gatherings are required to wear a face mask. *exceptions may apply

Further, the order specifically **requires all "employees" to wear a face mask** and to deny entry to others who do not*.

NOTE: "Residential" settings where staff are employed are considered "workplaces" and staff are subject to MIOSHA and LTC facility requirements. Staff must wear appropriate PPE as defined by [MDHHS guidelines](#), even when their workplace is a "residence."

[MIOSHA Emergency Rules](#) Expires 4/14/21 but may be extended for an additional 6 months.

Employees *must* complete and record daily screening for symptoms, exposure, and temperature (optional). **Employees must report symptoms immediately to the employer.**

Workplaces must be regularly cleaned and disinfected. Employees must maintain 6 feet of distance from others whenever possible; face coverings must be worn by employees.

MDHHS recommends that surgical masks be used at all residential facilities when performing daily resident care and that additional PPE be used during care involving bodily fluids and other higher risk circumstances. **[See table 1.](#)** Employers must provide PPE that is appropriate to the exposure risk of the job.

[Residential Care Facilities \(Less than 13 beds\)](#) No expiration date

[Visitation is no longer limited; however, safety precautions per the CDC are still in place.](#)

Please use the attached MDHHS reference to understand the new visitation order and how to continue to keep everyone safe and protected from exposure to COVID 19.

Remember, the best thing you can do for your safety and that of your clients is to get your COVID-19 vaccine!