

Division of Health Improvement (DHI):

Licensing and Regulation of Long-Term Facilities and Boarding Homes during COVID-19

Prepared for the
Legislative Health and Human Services
Committee
August 21, 2020

CMS COVID 19 Focus Infection Control Surveys

- CMS suspension of all non-emergency inspections on 3/4/20
 - CMS resumes routine inspections on 8/17/20

March to August 2020 Completed Federal Workload:

- Conducted 85 Covid-19 Nursing Home surveys
- Conducted (8) Immediate Jeopardy onsite investigations
 - Cited 25 total federal deficiencies

Nursing Homes

71 Licensed and Certified Nursing Homes

Per State Licensing Authority:

Between March 12-18

- Conducted 71 Onsite Infection Control Surveillance Reviews
- Conducted 48 Offsite Complaint investigations related to infection control breach allegations
- Conducted approx. 1100 Offsite Infection Control Surveillance Reviews, including record review and video verification
- Conducting additional outreach when positive cases identified to verify sufficient staffing, isolation of positive cases, and adequate testing

Assisted Living Facilities

241 Licensed Assisted Living Facilities

- Conducted 220 Onsite Infection Control Surveillance visits
- Conducted 34 Offsite Complaint Investigations related to infection control breach allegations
- Conducted approx. 1200 Offsite Infection Control Surveillance Reviews, including record review and video verification
- Conducting additional outreach when positive cases identified to verify sufficient staffing, isolation of positive cases, and adequate testing

Intermediate Care Facilities

45 Licensed and Certified ICF/IIDs

- Conducted approx. 400 Offsite Infection Control Surveillance Reviews, including record review and video verification
- Additional outreach when positive cases identified to verify sufficient staffing, isolation of positive cases, and adequate testing

Boarding Homes

NMAC 7.8.4 Regulations for Boarding Homes effective June 3, 2020

- Licensing Department has received 15 Boarding Home inquiries.
- Processing 7 applications for licensure.
- Completed 4 Physical Environment and Fire Safety Assessment Review surveys: 3 in Las Vegas and 1 in Albuquerque.

Additional Actions:

- Since April 2020, hosted weekly information sessions in collaboration with:
 - New Mexico Healthcare Association
 - Human Services Department
 - Aging and Long Term Care Department
 - Ombudsman Office
 - Epidemiology
 - Tricore Reference Laboratories

Additional Actions:

- Participate in Medical Advisory Team Subcommittee
- Reporting outreach/ assistance to healthcare facilities
- Review/ Approve Travel Waivers

Division of Health Improvement Rule(s) Update:

New and Amended Emergency rules put in place:

- Boarding Homes
- Nursing Homes
- Assisted Living Facility (ALF)
- Home Health Agencies facilities

Division of Health Improvement Covid Funding Operations Impact:

- COVID Payroll Expense
 - \$66,000 payroll saved from general funds
- CARES Act Funding
 - Utilizing to purchase PPE weekly
- COVID related IPRA Requests
 - .5 FTE temporary clerk to support IPRA processing

Division of Health Improvement Background Screening Update: Caregiver Criminal History Screening Program

- Manual Fingerprinting
- Committed to supporting the hiring of caregivers at long-term care facilities