



New Mexico Health Care Association New Mexico Center for Assisted Living

Vicente Vargas, Executive Director

August 21, 2020

Presenters



E. DeAnn Eaton
CEO
Haverland Carter Lifestyle Group



Gerald Hamilton
Owner
Bee Hive Homes

Kevin Flury
Regional Director of Operations
Cantex Continuing Care Network



NMHCA/NMCAL Background

Incorporated on December 16, 1954, the New Mexico Health Care Association/New Mexico Center for Assisted Living (NMHCA / NMCAL) is a professional trade association for facility-based long-term care providers.

Our **mission** is to support our members and to promote individual quality of life for the people they serve.



Membership

More than 170 statewide members

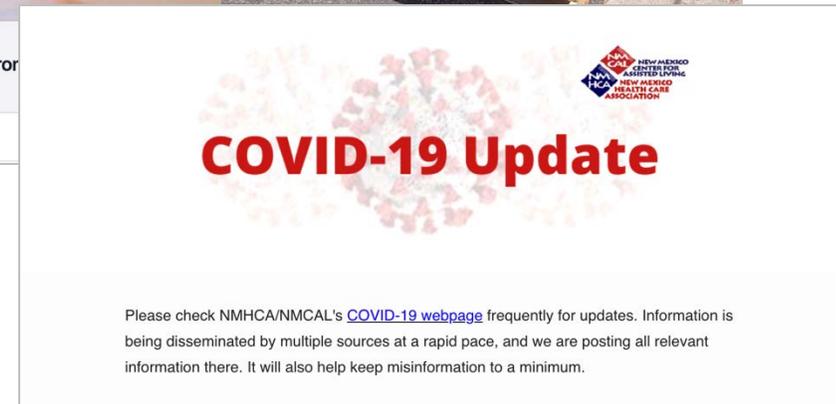
- Nursing Facilities
- Assisted Living Facilities
- Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities



Local COVID-19 Support

What we are doing:

- COVID-19 Newsletter & Web page
- Medical Advisory Team (MAT) LTC Workgroup
- Facilitate weekly update calls for ICFs, NFs and ALFs
- Electronic Tablet Program
- PPE and Hand Sanitizer Distribution
- Advertising Campaign thanking healthcare workers
- Participation in ABQ Health Emergency Management
- Weekly engagement with health care associations
- Temporary Nurse Aid training



COVID-19 Update

Please check NMCA/NMCA's [COVID-19 webpage](#) frequently for updates. Information is being disseminated by multiple sources at a rapid pace, and we are posting all relevant information there. It will also help keep misinformation to a minimum.

Local COVID-19 Support

Coming soon:

- Virtual Convention
- Virtual Certified Nursing Assistant Course
- Virtual Certified Medication Aide Course
- Virtual 40-Hour Basic Course for Activity Directors
- Virtual Passenger Assistance Motor Vehicle Operation Training



The flyer features a top section with a person's hands typing on a laptop keyboard, overlaid with a digital data visualization of bar and line graphs. Below this is a white section with the NMHCA and NMCAL logos, the title '2020 Virtual Convention', and the dates 'August 25-27 and September 1-3'. A dark blue vertical sidebar on the right contains the text 'WE CARE' and details about the event's format and continuing education hours. At the bottom left, contact information is provided.

  NEW MEXICO
CENTER FOR
ASSISTED LIVING
NEW MEXICO
HEALTH CARE
ASSOCIATION

2020 Virtual Convention

August 25-27 and September 1-3

4600A MONTGOMERY BLVD. NE, SUITE 205
ALBUQUERQUE, NM, 87109
505-880-1088

**WE
CARE**

NMHCA/NMCAL is excited to bring you this new virtual event! All sessions are offered live and will also be offered on-demand through September 30. This will enable you to maximize the number of sessions you attend!

Up to 30.5 Continuing Education Hours

Federal COVID-19 Support

Federal Funding

- 6.2% Enhanced FMAP
- Accelerated Payment Program
- CARES Act-Provider Relief Fund
 - First Tranche: General Health Care Provider Distribution
 - Second Tranche: Nursing Facility Targeted Funding
 - Third Tranche: Nursing Facility Targeted Funding

Point of Care-Antigen Testing

- More than 15,000 testing devices will be deployed over the next few months to help support testing mandates.



Cause of COVID-19 Outbreaks

Recent independent analyses by leading academic and health care experts, including Harvard University, the National Institute on Aging and National Institutes of Health and others, determined the following key findings regarding the likely factors as causes of nursing home COVID-19 outbreaks:

| Likely Factors | Not Likely Factors |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Location of Facility | Quality Ratings |
| Asymptomatic Spread | Infections Citations |
| Availability of Testing | Staffing |

Individual Findings



HARVARD
MEDICAL SCHOOL



BROWN
School of Public Health



**THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO**

On 'Location of Facility' as factor:

“According to preliminary research presented, larger facilities located in urban areas with large populations, particularly in counties with a higher prevalence of COVID-19 cases, were more likely to have reported cases.”

-David Grabowski, PHD Professor Of Health Care Policy

On 'Asymptomatic Spread' as factor:

“COVID-19’s ability to hide in plain sight will continue to crush expectations of halting its spread unless more and quicker testing at nursing homes sweeps the country.”

- Vincent Mor, PHD Professor, Health Services And Policy

On 'Quality Rating' as factor:

“We found no meaningful relationship between nursing home quality and the probability of at least one COVID-19 case or death...Indeed, the first death reported was from a nursing home in Washington State that had a 5-star rating.”

-R. Tamara Konetzka, PHD Professor Of Health Services Research

JUST THE FACTS: WHAT CAUSED COVID-19 OUTBREAK IN NURSING HOMES

Location of a nursing home, asymptomatic spread and availability of testing – not quality ratings, infection citations or staffing – were determining factors in COVID-19 outbreaks according to independent analyses by leading academic and health care experts. A [new study](#) from Harvard University, with support from the National Institute on Aging and National Institutes of Health, examined COVID-19 outbreaks in New York, Detroit and Cleveland, and found that the intensity of COVID-19 outbreaks in nursing homes mirrored the rate of spread among the general population. These findings are consistent with research conducted by the American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL), which examined recent data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on COVID-19 outbreaks in nursing homes.



KEY FINDINGS

DAVID GRABOWSKI, PHD
Professor Of Health Care Policy

VINCENT MOR, PHD
Professor, Health Services And Policy

R. TAMARA KONETZKA, PHD
Professor Of Health Services Research

| | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <p>LOCATION OF FACILITY DETERMINED OUTBREAKS</p> | <p>“According to preliminary research presented, larger facilities located in urban areas with large populations, particularly in counties with a higher prevalence of COVID-19 cases, were more likely to have reported cases.”¹</p> | <p>Mor: “If you’re in an environment where there are a lot of people in the community who have COVID, the patients in the building are more likely to have COVID.”¹</p> | <p>“Outbreaks of COVID-19 in nursing homes are often a signal of the communities into which the virus is spreading.”⁴</p> |
| <p>ASYMPTOMATIC SPREAD AND AVAILABILITY OF TESTING WAS A KEY FACTOR</p> | <p>Grabowski: “It is spreading via asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic cases... We’re not going to get a handle on COVID-19 until we get a systematic testing and surveillance system.”¹</p> | <p>“COVID-19’s ability to hide in plain sight will continue to crush expectations of halting its spread unless more and quicker testing at nursing homes sweeps the country, said a top U.S. researcher (Mor).”³</p> | <p>“Given asymptomatic spread and inadequate testing, staff often do not know which residents are infected. With policymakers and the public initially focused on the spread of infection within hospital settings, nursing homes often lost that competition.”⁴</p> |
| <p>QUALITY RATING OF FACILITY AND PREVIOUS CITATIONS WERE NOT A FACTOR IN OUTBREAKS</p> | <p>“COVID-19 cases in nursing homes are related to facility location and size and not traditional quality metrics such as star rating and prior infection control citations.”²</p> | <p>“He (Mor) added that counter to some assertions, regression analyses show that infection rates are unrelated to quality rankings...”³</p> | <p>“We found no meaningful relationship between nursing home quality and the probability of at least one COVID-19 case or death... Indeed, the first death reported was from a nursing home in Washington State that had a 5-star rating.”⁴</p> <p>Senator Susan Collins: “Testing should be conducted at all nursing homes, as Dr. Konetzka’s research finds no correlation between CMS’ quality ratings of nursing homes and the probability of at least one COVID-19 case. One of the worst outbreaks in Maine was at a nursing home that had five stars, the highest rating.”⁵</p> |
| <p>NO SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FOR- OR NOT-FOR- PROFITS IN THE CHANCE OF AN OUTBREAK</p> | <p>“Characteristics that were not associated with a facility having a COVID case included... whether it was for-profit, part of a chain... These factors had no correlation with whether the facility had cases of COVID-19.”¹</p> | <p>N/A</p> | <p>“We found no significant differences in the probability of COVID-19 cases by profit status, with for-profit nursing homes and not-for-profit nursing homes being equally likely to have cases.”⁴</p> |

¹ [Provider Magazine](#), 5/11/20

² [Characteristics Of U.S. Nursing Homes With COVID -19 Cases](#), 6/2/20

¹ [Provider Magazine](#), 5/11/20

³ [McKnight's Long Term Care News](#), 5/11/20

⁴ [Testimony To United States Senate Special Committee On Aging](#), 5/21/20

⁵ [Op-ed, Senator Susan Collins, The Portland Press Herald](#), 6/15/20



Contact

Vicente Vargas

Executive Director

New Mexico Health Care Association

New Mexico Center for Assisted Living

505-710-8560

v.vargas@nmhca.org

Charlie Marquez

Contract Lobbyist

New Mexico Health Care Association

New Mexico Center for Assisted Living

505-263-2032

CHARLIEMARQUEZ@msn.com