

LTCF | ALF NEWS



Long Term Care | Assisted Living

Cowlitz County

Summer 2017

The Oregon Patient Safety Commission just released new Blood Glucose Monitoring Videos on the Oregon Patient Safety Commission's YouTube Channel. They are free and can be used for staff training. The videos were made possible through collaboration between the Oregon Patient Safety Commission and the Oregon Healthcare-Associated Infection Program at the Oregon Health Authority, with funding made possible (in part) by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity Grant. They are a great resource for ICAR assessments and/or APIC chapters.

English: https://youtu.be/dddSV0Tu_AE

Spanish: <https://youtu.be/F1IMhh8yqWY>

These are also excellent resources from Oregon Patient Safety Commission:

Environmental Hygiene- Best Practices to Use When Cleaning and Disinfecting Patient Rooms:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zx9fgg0u4cQ>

Norovirus Training for Environmental Cleaning Staff:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NWWa1ZlqneQ>



Antimicrobial Stewardship Program Resources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/longtermcare/prevention/antibiotic-stewardship.html>

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/YouandYourFamily/IllnessandDisease/HealthcareAssociatedInfections/EquIP/LTC>

For questions contact: **Dana Nguyen RN, BSN at (360) 524-1167 or dana.nguyen@clark.wa.gov**

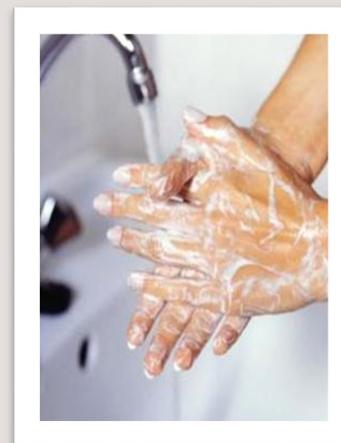
New CMS Requirement:

On June 2, 2017 CMS issued a Survey and Certification letter, subject matter "Requirement to Reduce Legionella Risk in Healthcare Facility Water Systems to Prevent Cases and Outbreaks of Legionnaires' Disease (LD)."

This letter outlines expectations for healthcare facilities and surveyors. CMS states "Facilities must develop and adhere to policies and procedures that inhibit microbial growth in building water systems that reduce the risk of growth and spread of legionella and other opportunistic pathogens in water".

In an effort to help you prepare we wanted to inform you and share the CDC toolkit.

We encourage you to take time to review the attached letter and toolkit. If you have any questions please let us know, we are available as a resource to assist you and your teams.



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Document



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Cowlitz County Environmental Health

<http://www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/index.aspx?nid=1201>

Jesse Smith, RS at 360-414-5599 x6442 or smithj@co.cowlitz.wa.us

Regional Disaster Preparedness

EquiP for LTC is the place to learn antimicrobial stewardship and best practices in infection control to improve health of your residents and quality of the care you provide in your skilled nursing facility.

The series will continue as before on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 10:00 AM PST. Here are the upcoming sessions:

- **July 26 2017**— Dr. Amit Desai, "Clinical pearls to reduce antibiotic overuse in nursing homes"
- **August 23 2017**—Dr. Gwinwa Dumyati, "Stewardship to reduce CDI in nursing homes"
- **September 27 2017**—Dr. Chris Crnich "Antibiotic Stewardship in Nursing Homes: What are the Low Hanging Fruit?"

To register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5879017588924100354>

Webinar ID: 204-083-979

If you have any questions please contact your local Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, **Samantha Minor** at @ 360-414-5599 x 6450 or minor@co.cowlitz.wa.us.



Foodborne Disease

Infectious agents including viruses, bacteria, and parasites can cause illness when food is not handled safely. E. coli, Salmonella, and Norovirus are common causes of foodborne outbreaks, and the spread of these infections can happen quickly in a congregate setting.

Foodborne outbreaks may be difficult to detect unless a defined group or related persons are affected. There are typically 30 to 50 outbreaks reported every year within Washington State, with the majority of outbreaks reported during the summer months.

Measures to prevent GI/foodborne outbreaks include proper sanitation, cooking and handling practices, hand hygiene, use of personal protective equipment, and resident and staff restrictions if ill.

For more information visit: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/ForPublicHealthandHealthcareProviders/NotifiableConditions/FoodborneDiseaseOutbreaks>

LTC/Assisted Living Facility Resources:

<http://www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/index.aspx?nid=2270>

For LTCF/ALF calls or questions please contact:

- Michelle Ashby, RN, PHN-II at 360-414-5599 x6417 or ashbym@co.cowlitz.wa.us
- Sheayah Krey, RN, PHN-II at 360-414-5599 x6419 or kreys@co.cowlitz.wa.us

Employee Wellness!

Some people still believe that getting a base tan is a healthy way to prevent burns. According to dermatologist, Jeanine Downie, there is no such thing as a safe tan and that bit of pigment may give your skin an SPF of 3 or 4, which is nothing. The fact is, any change in the color of your skin is a sign of damage.

According to the EPA clear skies allow virtually 100% of UV to pass through, scattered clouds transmit 89%, broken clouds 73%, and overcast skies 31%.

American Academy of Dermatology recommends:

- Daily sunscreen throughout the year to cut the incidence of melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer, in half.
- Wear a broad-brimmed hat.
- Seek shade, especially in the hottest part of the day.
- Wear sun-protective clothing that covers your back, shoulders, arms and legs.
- Apply a broad spectrum sunscreen with an SPF of at least 30+ every 2 hours and after swimming or exercise.
- Wear wrap-around sunglasses.



Sun Safety