

Week 9: Interprofessional Team Management of Mild cases of COVID-19

Session Information
Session Topic: Interprofessional Team Management of Mild cases of COVID-19 National Expert Presenter(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kathleen Unroe
COVID-19 Content: Interprofessional Team Management of Mild cases of COVID-19
Presentation Title: Managing COVID-19 in Nursing Homes Session Description: This session will give an overview of the recent challenges with managing the care of COVID-19 patients, including structural challenges as well as challenges in infection prevention and control. It will also review strategies for knowing when to hospitalize residents and how to ensure safe transitions as well as what to do in the event of an outbreak. Learning Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Name nursing home challenges in preventing and treating COVID-19 outbreaks• Identify key aspects of preparation• Review navigating an outbreak – case study• Describe common clinical courses of nursing home residents with COVID-19
Required Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Video: <i>Clinical Management of COVID Patients</i> Supplementary Resources:
Quality Improvement: Moving to Action
Learning Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify one or more ideas to try
Required Resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Activity: Identify one or more ideas to try

Discussion

Guided Questions

- Are there written communication materials and resources to inform everyone about how to manage mild COVID-19 cases in the nursing home?
- If an auditor asked a nursing home team member to differentiate between mild, moderate and severe cases of COVID-19, would the staff person be able to articulate the differences and how to modify treatment if needed (including when transfer to a higher level of care might be considered)?
- Is there a process in place for documenting and reporting all resident COVID positive cases, tracking outcomes of cases that are managed in the nursing home (i.e., deaths, hospital transfers, residents who have recovered)?
- Are numbers of cases, deaths, hospital transfers and recoveries compiled and reported to leadership, as well as to required NHSN or state agencies?

Sample Case & Case Questions

With the rise in symptomatic and asymptomatic cases of COVID-19 in communities, we are seeing an increase in nursing home staff members testing positive. Each case may present a different scenario. Below are some frequently asked questions that may be helpful to address during the discussion:

- How do we define ‘significant risk due to exposure’ when we have to assess the risk to residents and staff throughout the nursing home?
- Who gets tested and how often?
- How do we keep residents safe from staff members, visitors or others who may be contagious? How does a nursing home address risk with residents who do not always wear (or cannot wear) a mask?
- How do we keep staff vigilant and prevent or mitigate COVID-fatigue?
- Are people coming to work with mild symptoms?
- Are people afraid to speak up or afraid to miss a day of work?
- If an employee tests positive, do we ask whether or not that employee works in another setting with vulnerable people?