

National and regional guidance relating to allowing family and other visitors back into care homes

10th July 2020

In person contact with family and other visitors are extremely important to people living in care homes. In many countries visits to care homes have been restricted as one of the measures to try to prevent COVID-19 infections. In order to facilitate international learning on opening care homes, we are gathering guidance and related documents.

The guidance and related documents on easing restrictions on visitors in care homes that we've identified to date are listed below. We know this list is not comprehensive and new guidance will be made available, please email any additional or updated documents to lee-fay.low@sydney.edu.au. We're currently working on summarising and drawing some policy lessons from these documents, if you would like to contribute please get in touch with Lee-Fay about this.

Region	Organisation	Date of last update	Link
United Kingdom			
England	Care Provider Alliance	19 June	https://careprovideralliance.org.uk/coronavirus-visitors-protocol
Northern Ireland	Northern Ireland Department of Health	30 June	https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/covid-visiting-guidance
Scotland	Scottish Government	3 July	https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-adult-care-homes-visiting-guidance/
Wales	Welsh Government Health and Social Services group	7 July	https://gov.wales/visits-care-homes-guidance-providers-html
United States of America			
United States of America	Centres for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)	18 May 23 June	https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-30-nh.pdf https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-nursing-home-reopening-recommendation-faqs.pdf https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-visitation-nursing-home-residents.pdf
Arkansas	Arkansas Department of Health	28 June	https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/images/uploads/pdf/guidance_long_term_care_visitation.pdf
California	California Department of Public Health	26 June	https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/AFL-20-22.aspx
Colorado	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment	?	https://covid19.colorado.gov/outdoor-visitation

Columbia	DC health	11 June	https://coronavirus.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/dcps/page_content/attachments/06122020_DCHealth-Long-Term-Care-Phased-Guidance.pdf
Idaho	Idaho Department of Health and Welfare(?)	13 June	https://rebound.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/stage4-protocols-long-term-care-facilities.pdf
Illinois	Illinois Department of Public Health	18 June	https://www.dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/LTC%20visitation%20guidance%20final%2006.18.20.pdf
Indiana	Indiana State Department of Health	5 June	https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/Outdoor%20Visitation%20FAQ_6.5.20.pdf
Kansas	Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services	12 June	https://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1302/KDADS-Nursing-Facility-Reopening-Guidance-PDF--6-12-2020
Kentucky	Commonwealth of Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services	25 June	https://chfs.ky.gov/cv19/LTCFGuidancePhasedRestoration.pdf
LA	Los Angeles County Department of Public Health	17 June	http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/ACD/docs/nCoVLTCCGuide.pdf
Maryland	Maryland Department of Health	18 June	https://phpa.health.maryland.gov//Documents/NH%20Relaxation%20of%20Restrictions_6.18.2020_FINAL.pdf
Michigan	Michigan Department of Health and Human Services	30 June	https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98163-533333--,00.html
Minnesota	Minnesota department of health	17 June	https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/lc/outdoor.pdf
Missouri	Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services	15 June	https://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/communicable/novel-coronavirus/pdf/visitation-guidance.pdf
New Jersey	State of New Department of Health	19 June	https://nj.gov/health/legal/covid19/6-19-20_ExecutiveDirectiveNo20-017_StandardsProtocolsVisitorsFacilityStaff.pdf
North Carolina	North Carolina Department of Health and	26 June	https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/guidance/Guidance-on-Outdoor-Visitation-for-Larger-Residential-Settings.pdf

	Human Services		
North Dakota	North Dakota Human Services	29 June	https://www.nd.gov/dhs/info/covid-19/docs/reopening-guidance-long-term-care-facilities.pdf
Ohio	Ohio Department of Health	5 June	https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/OHOOD/2020/06/05/file_attachments/1467891/Director%20of%20Health%20Order%20visitation%20RCF%20ICF.pdf
Oklahoma	Oklahoma State Department of Health	10 June	https://coronavirus.health.ok.gov/sites/g/files/gmc786/f/oklahoma_reopening_in_long_term_care_facilities_final_20200610.pdf
Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania Department of Health	26 June	https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Guidance/SNF-Guidance.aspx
Rhode Island	Rhode Island Department of Health	4 June	https://health.ri.gov/publications/guidance/Guidance-for-Nursing-Home-and-Assisted-Living-Visitation.pdf
South Dakota	South Dakota Department of Health	26 June	https://doh.sd.gov/documents/COVID19/South_Dakota_Back_to_Normal_Nursing_Home_Reopening_Plan.pdf
Tennessee	Tennessee Department of Health	10 June	https://www.tn.gov/governor/news/2020/6/10/limited-visitation-at-tennessee-long-term-care-facilities-will-resume-under-new-guidelines.html
Vermont	Vermont Agency of Human Services	12 June	https://www.healthvermont.gov/sites/default/files/Outdoor-Visitation-Guidelines.pdf
Virginia	Virginia Department of Health	18 June	https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/182/2020/06/VDH-Nursing-Home-Guidance-for-Phased-Reopening-6.18.2020.pdf
Wisconsin	Wisconsin Department of Health Services	7 July	https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/ltc.htm
West Virginia	West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources	? June	https://governor.wv.gov/Documents/Covid%20Additional%20Guidances/Nursing%20Home%20COVID19%20Reopening%20Plan.pdf
Wyoming	Wyoming Department of Health	16 June	https://health.wyo.gov/guidance-updated-to-support-outdoor-visitation-at-long-term-care-facilities/
Canada			
Alberta	Alberta Health Services	26 June	https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/assets/healthinfo/ipc/hi-ipc-covid19-infosht-visiting-pts-pandemic.pdf

British Columbia	BC Centre for Disease Control	30 June	http://www.bccdc.ca/health-professionals/clinical-resources/covid-19-care/clinical-care/long-term-care-facilities-assisted-living
Nova Scotia	Nova Scotia government?	10 June	https://novascotia.ca/news/release/?id=20200610004
Newfoundland Labrador	NL government	22 June	https://www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19/guidelines-for-support-person-designated-visitors/
Ontario	Ontario Ministry for Long Term Care	11 June	https://files.ontario.ca/mltc-resuming-visits-long-term-care-homes-en-2020-06-11-v3.pdf
Quebec	Quebec government?	30 June	https://www.quebec.ca/en/health/health-issues/a-z/2019-coronavirus/caregivers-during-the-covid-19-pandemic/
Saskatchewan	Saskatchewan Health Authority	2 July	https://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/health-care-administration-and-provider-resources/treatment-procedures-and-guidelines/emerging-public-health-issues/2019-novel-coronavirus/public-health-measures/guidance-for-health-care-facilities
Australia			
Australia	Coalition of aged care provider and consumer peak bodies	3 July	https://www.cota.org.au/policy/aged-care-reform/agedcarevisitors/
Victoria	Victoria State Government Health and Human Services	1 July	https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/aged-care-sector-coronavirus-disease-covid-19