



Department of Health

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This guidance is intended for Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF) seeking emergency approval from the New York State Department of Health (the Department) for temporary provision of Home Hemodialysis (HHD) services to nursing home residents. The Department will exercise its authority under Executive Order 202.1 to issue emergency approvals for these requests.

Facilities that previously submitted a Limited Review Application must submit a written notice addressed to **Director, Division of Nursing Home and ICF/IID Surveillance**. SNFs that wish to request emergency approval for nursing home hemodialysis, but have not yet submitted an LRA, may wish to reach out to End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) providers that have already been approved by the Department to provide HHD and execute a contract with them to offer services on-site.

The project **must** comply with the most current State and Federal guidance related to treatment of patients with known or suspect COVID-19. The notice must include the following information:

- **Guidance.** Assurance that Healthcare Personnel (HCP) will follow the [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Confirmed Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) or Persons Under Investigation for COVID-19 in Healthcare Settings](#).

- **Submission of floor plans.** If the Nursing Home anticipates accommodating residents with confirmed COVID-19, floorplans submitted for applications should be reconfigured to allow for a six-foot radius between the nearest resident stations.
- **Routine cleaning and disinfection appropriate for COVID-19 in dialysis settings.** Any surface, supplies, or equipment (e.g., dialysis machine) located within 6 feet of symptomatic patients should be disinfected or discarded. Products with EPA-approved emerging viral pathogens claims are recommended for use against COVID-19. Refer to the [*New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Registered Disinfectants*](#) which is based on the EPA-registered disinfectants that have qualified under EPA's emerging viral pathogens program from use against SARS-CoV-2.
- **Provisions for dialyzing more than one patient with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.** Consideration should be given to cohorting these patients and the HCP caring for them together in the section of the unit and/or on the same shift (e.g., consider the last shift of the day). If the etiology of respiratory symptoms is known, patients with different etiologies should not be cohorted (for example, patients with confirmed influenza and COVID-19 should not be cohorted).\

Emergency approvals will be time-limited and will require permanent approval. The Department is committed to having a rapid turn-around time for these approvals to increase capacity for HHD and for COVID-19 activities. Facilities are encouraged to submit requests as soon as they have identified any available options.

Please submit your request to the Director, Division of Nursing Homes and ICF/IID Surveillance at Sheila McGarvey at Sheila.mcgarvey@health.ny.gov