

COVID-19 Q&A Hour for Long Term Care



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Program

Shoreline, WA

Housekeeping



Attendees will be in listen only mode



Self-mute your lines when not speaking



Type questions into the question window. Please include the type of facility you are from in your question (e.g., NH) and indicate your county.



Nursing Home

Participants from long-term care, regulatory, public health



No confidential information presented or discussed. This is an educational webinar and does not constitute legal advice.



Local guidance may differ, please consult with your Local Health Jurisdiction (LHJ):

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/AboutUs/PublicHealthSystem/LocalHealthJurisdictions>

This is the LTC COVID-19 Q&A Hour!

A chance to connect, ask questions, and learn about the COVID-19 response and infection prevention guidance



COVID-19 Q&A Call Expectations

- Be present
- Assume positive intent
- Focus on solutions
- Speak and chat respectfully
- Give constructive feedback
- Express disagreements professionally and tactfully



Panelists



Future of LTC Q&A Call

Our plan is:

- Thursday, October 27 will be the last weekly Q&A call meeting
- In November and December, there will be one Q&A webinar on November 10th and one on December 15th
- After December, the meeting series will end
- The DOH team will continue to reevaluate the need for future calls as needs change in 2023

DOH Continuing Support

DOH will continue to be a proactive and supportive resource for LTCFs across the state in the following ways:

- Infection Preventionists are available for support, information and guidance including directly by email and via the COVID mailbox (hai-covid@doh.wa.gov)
- DOH will continue to offer guidance updates on changes on any IP topic relevant to LTCFs. Webinars will be scheduled if there are big guidance changes, to review and answer questions.
- Links will be provided to resources and educational opportunities that are currently available or in development.
- The DOH IP team is available to present at LTC partner regularly scheduled meetings on IP topics



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ICAR PROGRAM DETAILS

Our free, non-regulatory ICARs provide facilities with infection prevention recommendations and resources on how to keep residents and staff safe.

What We Do

- Provide support with an infection prevention expert
- Assist with addressing gaps in your current infection control protocols for COVID-19 or other infections
- Offer up-to-date guidance and resources

Who We Serve

- Long Term Care Facilities (Assisted, Skilled, Behavioral Health, Nursing facilities, and Adult Family Homes)
- Outpatient Settings
- Acute and Critical Access Hospitals

To Learn More or Schedule an In-Person or Virtual Visit:

<http://doh.wa.gov/ICAR>

Contact Us:

HAI-FieldTeam@doh.wa.gov (General)



In Partnership With

- Local Health Jurisdictions
- LeadingAge Washington
- Washington Health Care Association
- Adult Family Home Council of WA State
- Washington State Hospital Association



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

HAI-AR SECTION EMAIL ADDRESSES

Please refer to the table below to find the email most appropriate for your needs

Email Path	Description
HAI@doh.wa.gov	General healthcare associated infection questions
HAI-Covid@doh.wa.gov	COVID19-specific healthcare associated infection questions
HAIEpiOutbreakTeam@doh.wa.gov	Epidemiological outbreak assistance and healthcare associated infection questions
HAI-FieldTeam@doh.wa.gov	Schedule an ICAR for your facility
HAI-FITTesting@doh.wa.gov	Respiratory Protection related questions www.doh.wa.gov/ltrcpp

Respiratory Protection Program LTC Facility Support

Learn to conduct your own N95 fit test for your staff!

Next webinar: **October 26th at 1 pm**

Visit our website: [Fit Testing Training | Washington State Department of Health \(www.doh.wa.gov/ltrcpp\)](https://www.doh.wa.gov/ltrcpp)

- Step 1 – Pre-training education
- Step 2 – Sign up for a Virtual Fit Test Training webinar
- Step 3 – Hands-on training with our Fit Test Vendor

NOTE: Each participant will need to register individually



Email questions to: HAI-FitTest@doh.wa.gov

Enhanced Barrier Precautions Webinars for Nursing Facilities

Join DOH and RCS for a webinar on the recently [updated CDC recommendations for use of Enhanced Barrier Precautions \(EBP\) in nursing facilities](#). EBP is an important tool to prevent the spread of multi-drug-resistant organisms in your facility. This webinar will provide an overview of EBP and resources to assist with implementation and information from RCS.

EBP Webinars schedule:

- **Tuesday, Oct 25 2-3 pm:**
 - Registration link:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_n5oDMo2ES5CuY7XkMi3iGA

<https://doh.wa.gov/public-health-healthcare-providers/healthcare-professions-and-facilities/healthcare-associated-infections/special-projects>

ipCHAT – Infection Prevention & Control Health Access Team

- Forum for Skilled Nursing IPs to learn from experienced infection preventionists
- Covers infection prevention and antibiotic stewardship
- Leave with new knowledge, confidence, & connections to a community of infection preventionists
- Meetings take place every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Click link to register:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/64811201201>



Project Firstline Podcast

Episodes



1. Introduction and HAIs
2. PPE
3. Hand Hygiene
4. MDROs
5. ALFs and SNFs
6. Hospital Settings
7. *Candida auris*
8. Respiratory Protection
9. Vaccine Preventable Diseases
10. Dental Settings
11. *New* Dialysis Settings

Purpose



- Discuss and identify the importance and impact of infection prevention on our lives and the lives of our community
- <https://soundcloud.com/user-718826213/sets/pfl>



Summer Awardees
Announced Soon!

Gain recognition for
staff vaccine work you
are already doing!

NEW

Semi-Annual Fall Award
Cycle begins 9/1/2022 -
2/28/23. Report by
3/3/23.



[Long-Term Care COVID-19 Immunization Champion Award | Washington State Department of Health](#)

Comagine Health Events for October

Vaccination Station

Please tune in to the Comagine Health **Vaccination Station** every *second Tuesday of the month* at 10 a.m. PT/11 a.m. MT. These interactive sessions are designed to address questions about barriers or issues regarding adult vaccinations and offer opportunities for problem-solving and discussion.

During our meeting, we will share community risk data, updates to immunization regulations or current guidance, as well as educational resources.

Second Tuesday | 10 a.m. PT

[Register here](#)

NHSN Open Office Hours

Join Comagine Health every *fourth Wednesday of the month* at 11 a.m. PT/noon MT for **NHSN Open Office Hours**, a half-hour open conversation and technical assistance on NHSN reporting. Our subject matter expert, Lisa Barton, will provide reporting updates, answer questions and troubleshoot any reporting issues your building is experiencing.

Fourth Wednesday | 11 a.m. PT

[Register Here](#)

Driving Clinical Excellence

How do you take limited time frame, a burnt-out workforce, ever-changing leadership and little appetite to try “one new thing” and turn it into a successful, high-functioning team? Join Comagine Health every *first Thursday of the month* at 11 a.m. PT/ noon MT for **Driving Clinical Excellence**, an interactive and collaborative learning series that combines education, small-group consultation, peer-sharing and microlearning opportunities on effective clinical and change concepts.

First Thursday through Nov. 2, 2023 | 11 a.m. PT

[Register here](#)

APIC Puget Sound Virtual Conference - MDRO Risk Assessment Workshop

All are invited to attend – Open to members and non-members

Friday, October 28th

9:00 am - 3:00 p.m.

At this conference we will learn about the most concerning emerging pathogens, how to evaluate risk to your patients and prevent transmission to others.

Contact precautions for patients infected or colonized with MRSA is no longer the law in Washington State. With many new highly resistant organisms of concern, Infection Preventionists are evaluating risk and best practices to prevent transmission.

Registration: <https://events.eventzilla.net/e/puget-sound-apic-conference-2022--2138573819>

Registration: \$50

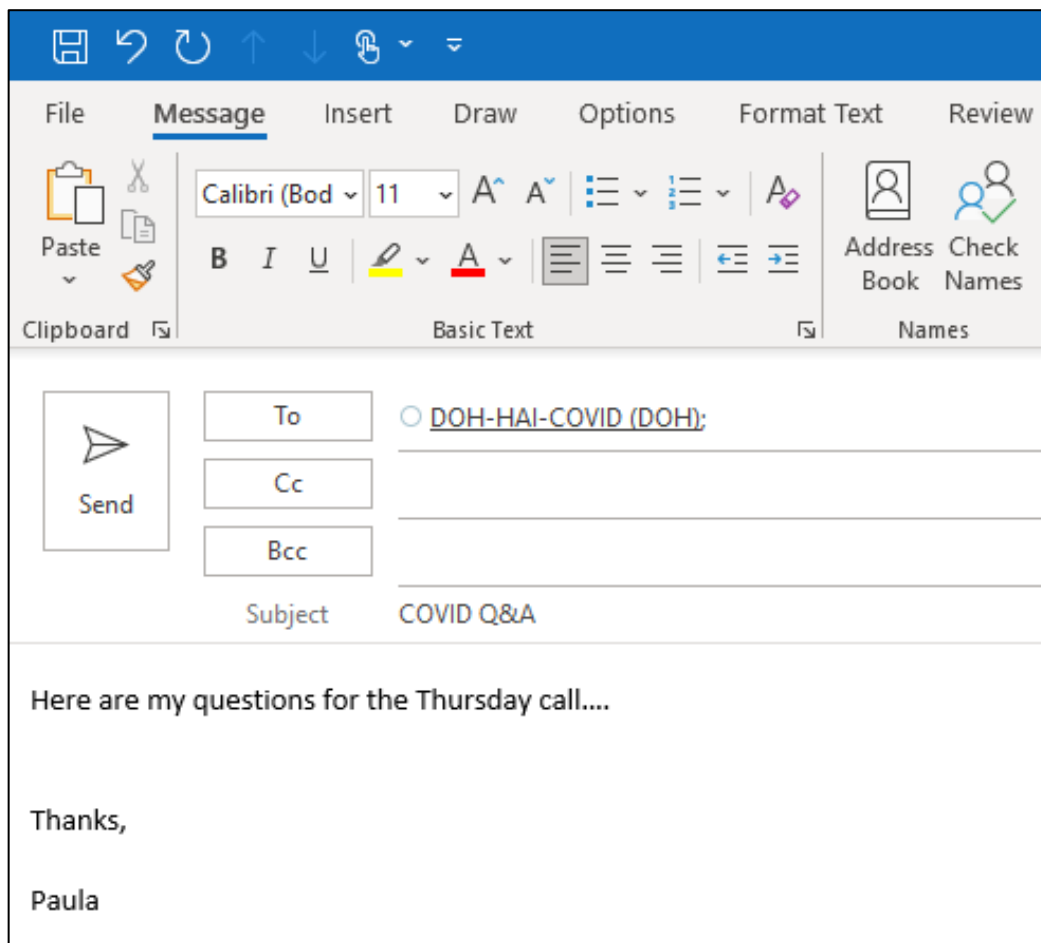
See flyer for more information; CEs TBD

Submit Your Questions by Monday

Subject Line:
COVID Q&A Call

Email:
HAI-COVID@doh.wa.gov

Due by: COB Monday



Upcoming LTC Q&A Micro Learning Presentations

No microlearning presentation today

TBD Oct – Guidance updates to be scheduled soon

Nov 10- 2022-2023 Seasonal Influenza Preparation and Outbreak Response

This Q&A call series ends Oct 27.

New registration link for November and December monthly calls:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_IQAgQ4QRTsuoNNTh0Xef9w

MAILBOX QUESTION AND ANSWER



CDC Updates

- DOH is working diligently to review the changes and determine how it impacts WA DOH's IPC guidance
- We will communicate changes as they happen
- Keep doing what you are doing
- Please continue to follow the [Interim Recommendations for SARS-CoV-2 Infection Prevention and Control in Healthcare Settings, DOH 420-391 \(wa.gov\)](#)

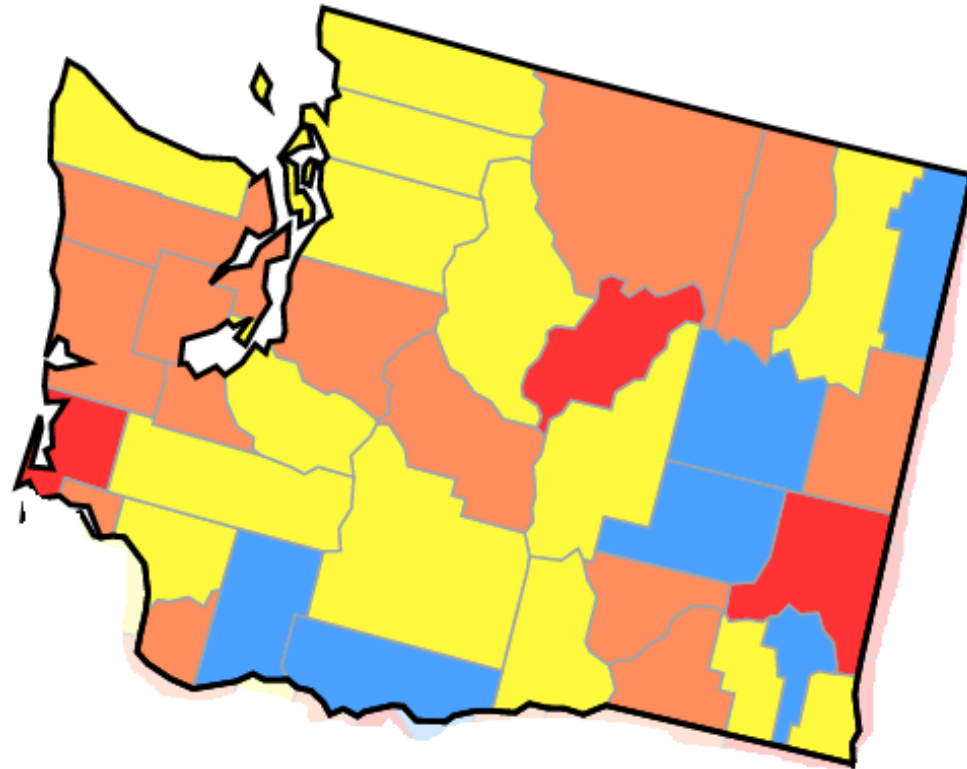


Universal Healthcare Masking

- The updated CDC guidance does not affect The Secretary of Health Mask Order
- The order currently requires universal masking in Healthcare settings, with few exceptions (this is an enforceable policy)
- Masking in Healthcare will **NOT** end with the recission of the remaining COVID-19 emergency orders on Oct. 31st



Today's COVID-19 Community Transmission rates



Key ● High ● Substantial ● Moderate ● Low ● No Data

[CDC COVID Data Tracker: County View](#)

Q & A Section

Please type your questions into the question window and tell us what type of facility you are from (e.g., ALF, SNF, AFH) and what county you are in.