



April 1, 2018

Dear Long Term Care Providers and Associations,

The Association for Health Facility Survey Agencies (AHFSA) is partnering with The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on a collaborative approach to promote the prevention and control of *Clostridium difficile* Infection (CDI) in Long Term Care facilities. The goal is for State Survey Agencies to distribute an infection prevention and control resource list including CDI prevention tools compiled with support from CDC and CMS. The extensive list includes resources for hand hygiene, appropriate use of contact precautions/personal protective equipment (PPE) during care of residents with CDI, antibiotic stewardship, communication of CDI risk factors (e.g., history of CDI, recent antibiotic use) during transitions of care, and environmental cleaning. The use of this document is not required by regulation but is being provided as a resource.

AHFSA recommends for Long Term Care providers to contact your State's Quality Innovation Network-Quality Improvement Organization (QIN-QIO) and State Healthcare Associated Infections (HAI) program for additional education, resources and technical assistance. We also encourage you to sign up and report CDI events via CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN). NHSN is the nation's most widely used healthcare-associated infection tracking system. It provides facilities, states, regions, and the nation with data needed to identify problem areas, measure progress of prevention efforts, and ultimately eliminate healthcare-associated infections.

Thank you,

Michael L. Cook

AHFSA President