



INFECTION CONTROL ASSESSMENT AND RESPONSE (ICAR) *A COLLABORATION BETWEEN MO DHSS AND QIPMO*



The QIPMO team knows that you, your staff, and residents have been dealing with COVID-19 and focusing on infection control for over a year and a half. With the manifestation of the Delta variant in Missouri, COVID-19 cases are once again surging. **We must remain vigilant!**

The QIPMO ICAR team wants to help you review your infection prevention and control practices.

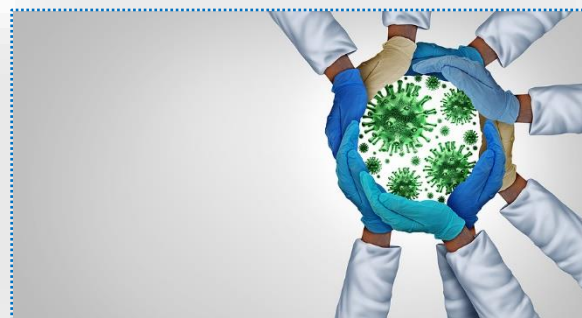
We'd love to help by offering **FREE** Infection Control Assessment and Response (ICAR) assessments. Having an outside set of eyes come in to review your infection control processes and systems will help you identify your vulnerabilities and strengths and may provide you with opportunities for improvement. The ICAR process will help you take what you've learned during this pandemic and develop ongoing strategies to be *prepared for any infection control crisis* that might impact your facility.

ICAR visits are voluntary and free for any Missouri nursing facility (SNF, RCF, ALF, and ICF). These visits are **confidential, consultative, and collaborative**; these visits are **NOT** regulatory (**ICAR facilitators are not surveyors**). The assessment, a tool developed by the CDC, includes a discussion of infection control processes and a short tour (virtual or in-person) of your facility. A complete visit, virtual or in-person, takes approximately 1½ - 2 hours. Following the visit, you'll receive a comprehensive feedback report and access to additional resources. You'll be able to use these results as part of ongoing quality improvement initiatives, survey preparation, and even more importantly, to enhance resident and staff safety.

If you are interested, contact the QIPMO ICAR Team at musonicarproject@missouri.edu or (573) 882-0241. Please be sure to include your facility name, your name, and your title in your email.

Common areas that we've noticed for improvement include:

- How staff avoid contaminating their facemask when eating and drinking
- What PPE to wear when collecting COVID-19 specimens
- What PPE to wear when caring for residents in quarantine or isolation - this includes new admissions with unknown COVID-19 status
- How to encourage and educate staff and residents to get vaccinated against COVID-19



PARTNERING WITH YOU TO PROMOTE QUALITY