

2021 SLCR Annual Provider Meeting

Questions & Answers

How many I/J s have been related to infection control, specifically, mask wearing, etc.?

- SLCR has cited 12 citations at Immediate Jeopardy level related to infection control. None of these citations were based solely on adherence to CDC recommendations for mask wearing. Rather, the IJ citations related to systemic failure in implementing transmission based precautions to protect the health and safety of residents. This has included failure to isolate COVID positive residents from COVID negative residents, failure to wear proper PPE (including facemasks) when caring for COVID positive residents, failure to clean/sanitize hands/PPE when moving from a COVID positive to COVID negative resident.

If you have 2 SOD's with 1 accepted POC and waiting on an acceptance of a POC, is it possible to just do 1 re-visit instead of 2 a week or 2 apart?

- Typically, yes, the revisit for both SODs to determine compliance would be conducted at the same time- unless there are extenuating circumstances, such as a high priority complaint allegation.

Some medications cause dental problems, such as dry mouth, which can lead to tooth decay. Does this mean that the patient has the same risk of those diseases even though the decay has been caused by medications?

- Dry mouth, regardless of the cause, allows biofilm to accumulate more rapidly, which in turn increases the bacterial count, especially gram negative anaerobes. Saliva also has an encapsulating function the somewhat deactivates bacteria. So dry mouth (a reduction in saliva,) would diminish this function.

What do you see in the mouth that would point to Obs. Sleep Apnea?

- Scalloped tongue edges caused by subconscious forward tongue displacement that presses the lateral borders of the tongue against the inside surface of teeth is common in patient with obstructive sleep apnea.

Would a Keurig one cup coffee maker be considered a cooking device?

- A Keurig would not be considered cooking. The facility would need to ensure they have properly assessed the residents and provided adequate safety measures when these appliances are used

Are microwaves allowed in ALF/RCF resident rooms?

- Yes, they are still allowed with the proper safeguards and assessments.

You said I believe CMS requirement I believe, electrical outlet test, does it this apply to non-certified facilities? i.e RCF/ALF

- No, this is only required in certified facilities.

Can you use air fryers or toaster ovens on ALF?

- These are allowed in RCF/ALFs, once again please ensure the residents have the proper assessments and safeguards.

Can we get copies of these slides emailed to us?

- These slides along with all the slides from the provider meeting are available at www.ltc.health.mo.gov.

Will we have to do thermal imaging on all of our electrical panels in the near future?

- Thermal imaging is not required per the Code; however, it can be used as a check to ensure no breakers are overheating.

What is maximum time interval allotted between rounds when fire watch is implemented?

- In the past 30 minutes has been given as a reference to see if more than one staff would be required. The requirement is the rounds should be conducted continuously.

If only one sprinkler is red tagged and the system is otherwise working in its entirety do you have to do fire watch?

- A red tag may be used; however, sprinkler companies may not actually apply a red tag. It would be up to the company to use a system to indicate the sprinkler system is not working. In most cases, the sprinkler system report indicates there are a great deal of impairments and it would be likely the system would fail. As for one sprinkler head, that would not be sufficient to impair a whole system.

What if a resident is utilizing portable oxygen and goes to the dining room to micro wave something?

- K925 specifically mentions “in a resident’s room” for the 15 feet, otherwise it is one foot, so this could be acceptable as long as the resident’s cannula is not closer than one foot from the microwave and if the facility’s policies and procedures/risk assessments allows residents with oxygen to use the microwaves.

On listing each receptacle in a room, should they further be itemized by each outlet in that receptacle for testing?

- This is not necessary, the requirement is every outlet must be listed in the documentation. If a receptacle fails, the whole outlet fails, and must be replaced. It is understood every receptacle needs to be tested.

** We have posted a Medical Marijuana presentation given by SLCR that may be helpful. SLCR answered the specific questions directly to the person who submitted them.

** Some of the Life Safety Code Presentation questions pertained to the requirements for certified vs. state licensed only facilities. Please see the updated handout which denotes the requirements by levels of care.