

SULLIVAN COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

<p>POLICY: Screening patients for COVID-19</p> <p>All patients, prospective and current, of the SCPHS CHHA agency will be screened for symptoms and/or exposure to COVID-19 while adhering to local, state, and federal guidelines.</p> <p>PURPOSE: The Sullivan County Public Health Services' Certified Health Home Agency (CHHA) will screen all patients for symptoms and exposure of COVID-19 to minimize exposure to staff and spread within the community</p> <p>RESPONSIBLE PARTY: DPS, Public Health Director, Medical Director, SCPHS staff</p>	<p>Effective date: 9/02/2020</p> <p>Revised:</p> <p>Reviewed:</p>
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All patients, prospective and current, of the SCPHS CHHA agency will be screened for symptoms and/or exposure to COVID-19 while adhering to local, state, and federal guidelines.

Note: Many patients with illnesses such as COVID-19 are able to remain in their homes during the course of their illness. The roll of the infectious disease plan is to take measures to protect home care staff and prevent further spread of the illness

COVID-19 is transmitted mostly through airborne droplets, but indirect contact through hand transfer from contaminates surfaces to mucosal surfaces (such as the nose and mouth) can occur. The virus can transfer between people who are in close contact with one another (approximately within 6 feet) Symptoms of COVID-19 ranges from mild disease to non-specific signs and symptoms of acute respiratory illness, to severe pneumonia with respiratory failure and septic shock. There have also been reports of patients with asymptomatic infections.

1. Perspective and current patients receiving service with the SCPHS CHHA must be screened for the following symptoms and exposure
 - A. Signs or symptoms of a respiratory infection such as:
 - i. Fever >100.4
 - ii. Cough
 - iii. Shortness of breath or
 - B. Persons who have had contact, in the last 14 days:
 - i. with someone with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19
 - ii. is under investigation for COVID-19
 - iii. are ill with respiratory illness
2. Communication with the Epidemiology staff of Sullivan County Public Health Services or the local health department where the patient resides if out of county, is recommended to determine, prior to providing service, if perspective patient is under.
 - A. Mandatory quarantine for COVID-19

B. Precautionary quarantine for COVID-19

3. Caring for Patients

A. All patients referred for Home care services are to be screened prior to, or immediately upon arrival at the home, for the following:

- i. International travel within the last 14 days to countries with sustained community transmission. For updated information on affected countries visit:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>
- ii. Signs or symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as a fever, cough, and sore throat.
- iii. In the last 14 days, has had contact with someone with or under investigation for COVID19, or are ill with respiratory illness.
- iv. Residing in a community where community-based spread of COVID-19 is occurring.

<https://www.cms.gov/medicareprovider-enrollment-and-certificationsurveycertificationgeninfopolicy-and/guidance-infection-control-and-prevention-concerning-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-home-health>