



## Department of Health

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**DATE:** November 10, 2023

**TO:** Nursing Homes, Local Health Departments

**FROM:** New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) Bureau of Healthcare Associated Infections

### **Informational Message: COVID-19 Resources for Nursing Homes**

Please distribute immediately to:  
Medical Directors, Administrators, Directors of Nursing, Infection Prevention Personnel,  
and Staff Development Personnel

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), the New York Medical Directors Association (NYMDA), and Health Research Inc. (HRI), are pleased to introduce the NYMDA COVID-19 Resource Project. The aim of the project is to support nursing home leaders and staff in their efforts to prevent, control, and treat COVID-19 and other viral respiratory infections among the vulnerable long-term care population. Funding for this project was awarded by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Cooperative Agreement #NU50CK000516).

As part of this collaboration, NYMDA has created a network of local providers to support high quality medical services in New York nursing homes. The project consists of no-cost access to NYMDA Project Coaches who can assist facility medical directors, leadership, and staff with navigating issues such as staff and resident vaccination, advice and guidance regarding treatment and prophylaxis, and assistance with design and implementation of isolation and cohorting programs both before and in response to a respiratory infection outbreak. In addition, NYMDA Project Coaches can assist facilities with making regional connections to share best practices for respiratory infection prevention and control in the long-term care setting. The project provides an open access website with useful, easy-to-find tools such as template policies and procedures, isolation signage, and much more.

Nursing homes can request coaching via:

- Email: [covid@nymda.org](mailto:covid@nymda.org) (preferred method)
- Call: 518-540-1999 (voicemail)

Nursing homes will be connected with regional experts to collaborate via remote conference calling or a telephone call. Although facilities will be asked to identify the region of the state where the facility is located, individual circumstances and the type and amount of support provided to any facility will be kept strictly confidential. NYSDOH will not collect specific facility-identifying information.