

**Effective Date:** 09/18/91

**Title:** Section 415.19 - Infection control

415.19 Infection control. The facility shall establish and maintain an infection control program designed to provide a safe, sanitary, and comfortable environment in which residents reside and to help prevent the development and transmission of disease and infection.

(a) Infection control program. The facility shall establish an infection control program with written policies and procedures under which it:

(1) Investigates, controls and takes action to prevent infections in the facility;

(2) Determines what procedures such as isolation and universal precautions should be utilized for an individual resident and implements the appropriate procedures; and

(3) Maintains a record of incidence and corrective actions related to infections.

(b) Preventing spread of infection. (1) When the infection control program determines that isolation is needed to prevent the spread of infection, the facility shall isolate the resident.

(2) The facility shall assure that all equipment and supplies are cleaned and properly sterilized where necessary and are stored in a manner that will not violate the integrity of the sterilization.

(3) The facility shall prohibit persons, including but not limited to, staff, volunteers, and visitors known to have a communicable disease or infected skin lesions from direct contact with residents or their food, if direct contact will transmit the disease.

(4) The facility shall require physicians and staff to wash their hands after each direct resident contact for which handwashing is indicated by accepted professional practice.

(c) Linens. Personnel shall handle, store, process, and transport linens so as to prevent the spread of infection.

(d) Reporting. The facility shall report increased incidence of infections, including nosocomial infections as defined in Section 2.2 of this Title, to the appropriate area office of the Office of Health Systems Management and shall report, immediately, the presence of any communicable disease as defined in section 2.1 of Part 2 of this Title to the city, county or district health officer.

(e) Notice to Funeral Director. If, at the time of death, a resident was diagnosed as having a specific communicable disease designated in Part 2 of this Title or an infectious disease, a written report of such disease shall accompany the body when it is released to the funeral director or his or her agent, except that no HIV-related information shall be disclosed to the funeral director unless the funeral director has access in the ordinary course of business to HIV-related information on the death certificate of the deceased individual.

