May 15, 2020

The COVID-19 public health emergency has precipitated a fluctuating and challenging health and safety environment for skilled nursing facilities. State governments and departments of health have been developing and promulgating protocols and safeguards for this unprecedented and volatile situation. Many facilities are compelled to maneuver through a labyrinth of frequently changing regulations, while doing their best to protect staff and residents.

In an effort to assist facilities with this process, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has published a toolkit of resources and information to assist in the fight against COVID-19. The toolkit provides **state-specific guidance and best practices** in several areas, including, but not limited to:

- reporting,
- testing,
- infection control,
- protocols for visitors,
- patient transfers, and
- staffing concerns.

The toolkit also provides a list of resources and organizations which may be helpful in your facility's planning and protection of staff and residents.

Please be aware that the toolkit is intended as an additional resource and does not replace previously established protocols and requirements. Previous announcements, as provided and explained in previous CCG emails, are still in effect.

As always, please feel free to reach out to us with any questions or concerns.

We are always available to discuss your concerns: (718) 408-8989 | www.ComplianceCG.com