

Pools to Prevention: Transforming an Aquatic Center into a SARS-CoV-2 Unit

Jennifer Schultz, MBA, BSN, RN & Maria Johnson BSN, RN, CCRN
ChildServe Inc.

Case Overview:



Objectives:

- Prevent “facility spread” of SARS-CoV-2.
- Create standard operating procedures to reduce risk.
- Comply with federal and state recommendations.

Guidance:

- Designate entire SARS-CoV-2 unit within the facility.
- Dedicate HCP to care for SARS-CoV-2 infected residents.
- Limit transportation outside of the room.
- Communicate info about resident SARS-CoV-2 infection to appropriate personnel before transfer.
- HCP should refrain from immediately entering the vacated room ensuring adequate air exchanges have occurred.
- Optimize air-handing systems to ensure appropriate directionally, filtration, and exchange rate.
- Implement standard infection prevention and control practices/processes.

Treatment:

- Routine sign and symptom surveillance of staff and residents.
- Routine SARS-CoV-2 testing of staff and residents
- Overhead paging prior to infected resident transport.
- Dedicated HCP for cares.
- Dirty and clean SARS-CoV-2 unit entry for supply allocation and disposal.
- Dedicated exterior SARS-CoV-2 unit entry of staff and residents.
- Delayed contaminated space re-entry for HCP.

SARS-CoV-2 Overview:

- Infectious respiratory disease.
- Long term care facilities are high risk due to congregate nature.
- Symptoms can include fever, cough, shortness of breath, can progress to pneumonia, or death.

References:

“COVID-19 Resources | CMS.” www.cms.gov, www.cms.gov/About-CMS/Agency-Information/OMH/resource-center/COVID-19-Resources. Accessed 23 Apr. 2021.

CDC. “Healthcare Workers.” *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*, 11 Feb. 2020, www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-after-vaccination.html.

Take Home Points:

- “Necessity is the root of all invention.” – Plato
- Prompt identification and isolation of infected individuals is key to prevent the spread of SARS-CoV-2 within a facility.
- Standard operating procedures are crucial to ensure successful execution.