

## Kansas 1915(c) HCBS Waiver Programs **COVID-19 Guidance**

**Date: Tuesday, March 24, 2020**

**Time: 1:00 PM**

### **Home Visit Measures**

Throughout the COVID-19 emergency period, to encourage social distancing and stop the spread of the pandemic, the agency directs that providers and participants limit participation in congregate settings or activities.

### **FOR WORKERS WHO VISIT HOMES**

For more information: [www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus](http://www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus)

### **PREVENTION BASICS**

1. At the time of scheduling a visit to a home, assess the situation by asking these questions:
  - a. Practice self-care, personal hygiene and social distancing
  - b. Stay home when sick
  - c. Wash hands frequently and for at least 20 seconds
  - d. Cover coughs and sneezes (into the crook of your arm or elbow)
  - e. Quickly dispose of tissues in the trash.

### **BEFORE: ASSESS THE SITUATION**

#### **What's the difference in symptoms between COVID-19, flu, colds and allergies?**

1. At the time of scheduling a visit to a home, assess the situation by asking these questions:
  - a. Has anyone in the home traveled within the last 14 days to/from a state or country identified as a hot spot?
  - b. Has anyone in the home been exposed to an individual diagnosed with COVID-19?
  - c. Is anyone in the home showing signs of illness including:
2. If the answer to any of these questions is **YES** or the occupant(s) prefers not to have a worker in their home, the visit should be rescheduled or, if possible, conducted virtually.
  - a. As a rule, reschedule the visit for **no earlier than 14 days**.
3. If there are no indications of risk/illness or the visit cannot be conducted virtually, proceed with the on-site visit as long as the occupant(s) are comfortable doing so.

### **AT THE HOME: REASSESS RISK**

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Laura Howard, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

**Is it essential/required for you to enter the home? If so, read about Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). [www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus](http://www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus)**

1. When arriving, reassess risk by asking the same questions before entering. If the answer to any question is YES, act as directed above. During the visit:
  - a. Don't shake hands or touch others when greeting or interacting.
  - b. Wash your hands frequently and use hand sanitizer when soap and water isn't available.
  - c. Limit unnecessary contact with surfaces/items and avoid shared use of tablets, laptops, writing utensils and cell phones. Regularly wipe down all items.
  - d. Follow the current COVID-19 guidance to protect yourself and those you come in contact with.

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