

Transforming
Lives

RCS Survey and Inspection Reimplementation

April 8 and 9, 2021

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services



Housekeeping

Attendees will be in listen only mode



Educational webinar



Self-mute your lines when not speaking



Participants from long-term care and regulatory staff

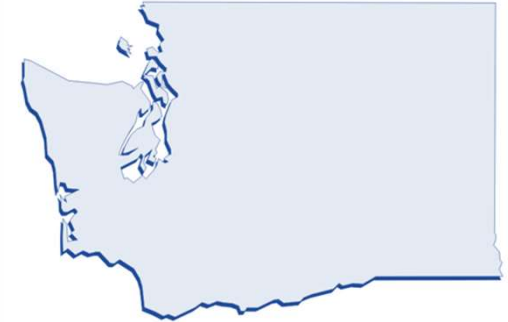
Type questions into the question window. *Tell us where you are from (e.g., AFH, NH)*



No confidential information presented or discussed



Introductions



Mike Anbesse, Director RCS

Bett Schlemmer, Office Chief for Field Operations

Loida Baniqued, Office Chief for Headquarter Operations

Shirlee Steiner, Regional Administrator for Region 1

Kathy Gold, Regional Administrator for Region 2

Bennetta Shoop, Regional Administrator for Region 3

Amy Abbott, Office Chief Policy, Training, QA, and Behavioral Health

Information About Today's Presentation

- This is an informational webinar for long-term care and regulatory staff. The webinar is not intended for the media.
- For ease of discussion we will use the term survey to represent any survey, inspection, and certification process
- Due to the large number of participants, all attendees will be muted.
- Please submit your comments or questions in the **Question Pane**.
 - We will attempt to answer as many of your questions as possible at the end of the presentation.

Purpose

- To provide updates regarding the reimplementation of the survey and inspection process in certified and licensed LTC programs;
- To provide information regarding steps RCS staff is taking to practice infection prevention strategies
- To answer questions providers may have regarding the inspection and survey process



Image by [moritz320](#) from [Pixabay](#)

Providers Participating in this Information Sharing and Impacted by the Reimplementation Process

- Nursing Homes (NH);
- Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID);
- Adult Family Homes (AFH);
- Assisted Living Facilities (ALF);
- Enhanced Services Facilities (ESF);
- Supported Living Agencies (SL);
- Group Homes, Group Training Homes; and
- State-Operated Living Alternatives (SOLA)

Plans for Reimplementation

- **Plan to start gradually:**
 - Will complete a small number of homes/facilities each month
- **Scheduling will take into account many factors:**
 - Length of time since last inspection
 - Facilities/homes with Infection control concerns
 - Facilities/homes with complaint concerns
 - Facilities/homes with no COVID outbreaks

Survey Process

- RCS may conduct Modified Survey process:
 - Modified is defined as changes in the survey process that vary from the standard process
 - Modified is based on circumstances and available resources and may result in less time onsite
 - Determination when to use Modified Inspection process is based on facility or home history and COVID-19 status

Survey Process

- For the modified process:
 - Onsite Activity may be limited
 - Observations are always done onsite
 - Interviews and record reviews may be done offsite
 - Group meetings will occur in ALF, ESF, and NH however these meetings may be modified

Survey Process

- The surveys are unannounced
- The focused infection control tools will continue to be used during the survey process
- While onsite, RCS will inform facilities/homes when RCS staff leave the home, whether for a break, lunch, or at the end of the day.
- While this may be a modified process, RCS will still conduct a full survey and the time taken may vary.

RCS staff

- RCS staff are considered essential health care workers and do need to be allowed in the facility
- For resident and staff safety, RCS staff:
 - Bring their own PPE to the survey
 - Follow all CDC and DOH infection control guidelines
 - Are offered the vaccine
 - Are offered the opportunity to test weekly
 - Are screened before work each day

Steps Facilities/Homes will take

- Screen RCS staff according to facility policy
- Allow RCS staff in the building as essential health care workers
- Provide access to a conference room or work area sufficient to maintain social distancing and place to don PPE
- Facilitate interview of residents/clients while assuring privacy is maintained
- Coordinate with RCS staff to maintain social distancing

Steps Facilities/Homes Will Take, Con't

- Facilitate observation of resident/client care
- Facilitate access to electronic record or hard copies
- Work with RCS staff in providing requested records timely through emails or scanning
- Provide disposal for used PPE

Excel tool of waived/suspended requirements with separate sheets for:

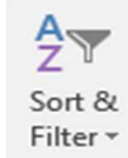
- Proclamations
- Emergency Rules
- Workforce
- CMS Waivers
- Management bulletins
- F and K Tags

This Excel tool can be found on each provider page

Each sheet contains:

- **Period of time the requirements were waived / suspended**
- **Statutory or rule citation waived**
- **Description of the waived requirement**
- **Setting(s) impacted**
- **Each sheet will be searchable by citation and setting**

To search the sheets:

- Click on the column header (one of the letters across the top of the sheet) to highlight the column
- On the “Home” menu, select  and then select ‘Sort A to Z’
- From the pop-up box, be sure ‘Expand the selection’ is marked and click ‘sort’
- This will reorder each row of information according to the sort criteria you selected

Final Notes on Survey Reimplemetation

- **The State Fire Marshal will be resuming unannounced inspections in ALFs and NHs as well**
- **All components of the survey or inspection process will be completed**
- **Any findings will be compared with waived and suspended rules before any final citation determination is made.**
- **If you have any concerns with communication, please discuss with the inspector or team lead. If this does not resolve the issue, please contact the below in the order listed:**
 - Field Manager
 - Regional Administrator
 - Office Chief



Questions



Contact us at:

RCSPolicy@dshs.wa.gov

Note: do not use this mailbox for urgent or emergency situations.