

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

Aging and Long-Term Support Administration PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600

May 11, 2018

ALTSA: NH #2018-012 LIST OF NOTIFIABLE HEALTH CONDITIONS

Dear Nursing Facility/Home Administrator:

In Washington state, Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 246-101 indicates health care providers and health care facilities are legally required to notify public health authorities at their local health jurisdiction (LHJ) of suspected or confirmed cases of selected diseases or conditions. These are referred to as notifiable conditions.

Most of Washington state's notifiable conditions can be found on the "List of Notifiable Conditions" web page. Access to commonly used resources such as reporting forms and investigation guidelines for public health investigators can also be found on the page, along with links to disease pages for most conditions. To report an illness you can find your Local Health Jurisdiction information by visiting the following site and clicking on your county: https://www.doh.wa.gov/AboutUs/PublicHealthSystem/LocalHealthJurisdictions

In some cases, a disease or illness is only considered notifiable after meeting certain criteria (i.e. two or more persons experience a similar illness in a specified period). The following tool can be useful in determining when an illness is notifiable:

https://www.doh.wa.gov/Portals/1/Documents/5100/420-034-Guideline-OutbreakReporting.pdf

Following the reporting guidelines found in the Nursing Home Guidelines (aka: "The Purple Book"), notifiable conditions should also be reported to the DSHS Hotline at 1-800-562-6078. If a disease or illness is not found on the list, or if the disease does not meet the reportable criteria in the guideline, there is no requirement to report to your LHJ or to the DSHS hotline.

Thank you for your continued commitment to resident health and safety. If you have any questions, please contact your local RCS Field Manager.

Sincerely,

Candace Goehring, Director Residential Care Services

DSHS: "Transforming Lives"