

# State and Federal Agencies Release Coronavirus Guidelines for Long-Term Care Facilities

# https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d7VtN-FyW6c

Reinhart shareholder Bob Lightfoot explains in this video a number of points addressed by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services in its March 13th Coronavirus update and the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services regarding various issues surrounding testing, visitation, and proper use of PPE at nursing homes and assisted living facilities. While there are currently no documented cases of COVID-19 at any nursing homes or assisted living facilities in Wisconsin, visitors should, at a minimum, be screened for coronavirus symptoms and travel to an affected area both domestically and internationally.

Lightfoot also notes that federal restrictions were undoubtedly going to get even more stringent, and those measures were announced by CMS late in the afternoon of March 13, according to an article from McKnight's Long Term Care News. CMS Administrator Seema Verma stated that the vast majority of visitors will be banned from nursing homes, and that the temporary restriction applies, "to all visitors and non-essential personnel, with few exceptions, such as end-of-life situations," she said during a press conference.

In addition, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services just released guidance for visitation of Nursing Homes and Assisted Living facilities that includes restricting staff from work if they have fever or signs of respiratory infection and canceling social gatherings and community events inside long-term care facilities.

Please visit Reinhart's <u>Coronavirus Resource Center</u> for additional up-to-date information.

#### POSTED:

Mar 13, 2020

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