



**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY  
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

**Michael Hill** *Health Agency Director*

**Penny Borenstein, MD, MPH** *Health Officer/Public Health Director*

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**PROVIDER HEALTH ADVISORY**

**Date:** August 20, 2020

**Contact:** Rick Rosen, MD, MPH  
Phone: (805)781-5500  
Email: [frosen@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:frosen@co.slo.ca.us)

**Use of Personal Protective Equipment in Residential Care Facilities  
(ARF and RCFE)**

As of today, we have had 20 deaths due to COVID-19 in our County. Twelve of these fatal infections originated in a residential care facility.

To a degree, such deaths could be anticipated due to the high risk involved with congregate housing and a typically older, chronically ill population. However, it has come to our attention that several of our colleagues in the residential care facility (RCF) industry are not adequately stocked with essential personal protective equipment (PPE) and/or do not ensure the appropriate use of PPE by staff, falling well short of preventative guidelines set forth by:

- CA Department of Social Services' PIN 20-23-ASC: Updated Guidance on Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Related to the Critical roles of Testing, Modification of Visitation Guidelines, Need for Infection Prevention and Control, and Use of Face Coverings in Adult and Senior Care Facilities  
English: <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/CCLD/PINs/2020/ASC/PIN-20-23-ASC.pdf>  
Español: <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/CCLD/PINs/2020/ASC/PIN-20-23-ASC-SP.pdf>  
Tagalog: <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/Portals/9/CCLD/PINs/2020/ASC/PIN-20-23-ASC-TL.pdf>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic, updated 7/15/20.  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html>

Patients and visitors should wear cloth face coverings throughout their stay in the facility. Healthcare and other personnel are mandated to wear facemasks at all times. We urge

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**County of San Luis Obispo Health Agency**

2191 Johnson Avenue | San Luis Obispo, CA 93401 | (P) 805-781-5500 | (F) 805-781-5543

[www.slopublichealth.org](http://www.slopublichealth.org)

each facility administrator to monitor its PPE stock, ensure sufficient supply of PPE and associated training, and provide effective support to staff to enhance compliance.

A list of PPE suppliers can be found on the County's COVID-19 webpage under Businesses/ Workplace: <https://www.emergencyslo.org/en/covid19.aspx>

Additionally, Adult and Senior Care Program Licensees can also contact their local Regional Office for assistance:

WOODLAND HILLS NORTH ADULT & SENIOR CARE REGIONAL OFFICE

Jill Nakata, Regional Manager

21731 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 250, MS 29-14 Woodland Hills, CA 91364

Telephone: (818) 596-4334; FAX: (818) 596-4376

E-mail: CCLASCPWoodlandHillRO@dss.ca.gov