BACKGROUND

In-home senior health providers have been working diligently to provide necessary treatment services for many elderly citizens, who are especially vulnerable to COVID-19. It is important to recognize that “Home Care is Health Care.” While some clients are able to receive virtual home health, not all have that technology availability. Lack of treatments, ability to pay for treatment, customer confidence and increased education around COVID-19 care is of utmost concern.

General Recommended Guidelines

- All caregivers should be required to wear PPE.
- Provide virtual or telehealth where possible.
- Provide COVID-19 care training and increased education to caregivers as it becomes available from the CDC.
- At employer’s discretion, employee temperatures and verbal health screenings can be implemented prior to work. Minimum temperature indicating possible fever per CDC guidelines is 100.4°F, however for caregivers working with seniors, a lower number (100°F) should be considered.
- Ask clients to wear PPE if possible.
- Clients should be asked let providers know prior to scheduled visit if they are sick or exhibiting signs of illness.
- Prior to entering a home, verbal health screenings and temperature check should be conducted.
- Caregivers and clients should be encouraged to wash hands pre and post treatment.
- Payments should be processed via touchless systems in so far as possible.