



Department of Health

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

JAMES V. McDONALD, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner

JOHANNE E. MORNE, M.S.
Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

Date: November 28, 2023
DAL: NH 23-16
Subject: Infection Inspection Audit and Checklist

Dear Nursing Home Administrator:

Pursuant to 2022 amendments to Public Health Law at 2803-aa, the Department of Health ("Department") has implemented an infection control inspection annual audit checklist for Nursing Homes to evaluate the Nursing Home's infection control competencies. Effective January 1, 2024, Nursing Homes are required to adhere to an audit evaluation checklist consistent with focused infection control survey standards established by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The annual Drupal-based survey will audit the following core competencies:

- infection control;
- personal protective equipment;
- staffing and cohorting;
- clinical care; and
- communication.

If a Nursing Home fails to meet all metrics, the Department will conduct another Drupal-based audit within ninety (90) days of the initial determination. Timely submission of all audit information is expected. The Department will continue to audit until the Nursing Home is determined to be compliant with each infection control competency. Where applicable, the Department will pursue administrative penalties which include, but are not limited to, citations, civil monetary penalties, and/or revocation or suspension of the Nursing Home's license under certain conditions.

The survey is located at: <https://apps.health.ny.gov/pubpal/builder/survey/ltc-infection-control-audits-vid>.

On 12/13/2023, the Department will host a recorded webinar for Nursing Homes to outline expectations and conduct a live demonstration of the Drupal submission process. Please pre-register at <https://meetny.webex.com/weblink/register/rbb04bcd111dd0736041b300e41624b9>.

If you have any questions, please write to nhinfo@health.ny.gov.

Sincerely,

Stephanie E. Paton, RN, Director
Division of Nursing Home and ICF/IID Surveillance

CC: A. Herbst
V. Deetz
H. Hayes
A. Cokgoren