



HEALTH OFFICER ORDER No. 20-07a

Date Order Issued: June 4, 2021

Order Rescinding Health Officer Order No. 20-07 (Public Health Requirements for “Long-Term Care Facilities and Other Agencies”)

SUMMARY OF THE ORDER

On April 13, 2020, the Health Officer issued Health Officer Order No. 20-07, which mandated Long-Term Care Facilities (LTCFs) and Other Agencies to follow certain requirements including screening for staff and essential visitors, masking mandates, restrictions on communal activities and some forms of staffing, and notification of potential infections. The age, condition, and health of a significant portion of the population in LTCFs, skilled nursing facilities, and other congregate living settings and agencies in the County of Alameda (“County”) places them at risk for serious health complications, including hospitalization and death, from COVID-19. At the time of Health Officer Order No.20-07, the Order was necessary to ensure that LTCFs and Other Agencies follow practices that would protect against COVID-19 spread in their vulnerable populations. Health Officer Order No.20-07 stated that the Order would remain in effect “until rescinded in writing by the Health Officer.”

On March 8, 2021, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) issued All Facilities Letter (AFL) 20-22.6, Guidance for Limiting the Transmission of COVID-19 in Long-Term Care Facilities. AFL 20-22.6 authorizes LTCFs to temporarily modify their facility's visitation policies in accordance with Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 guidance when necessary to protect the health and safety of residents, staff, and the public. On March 16, 2021, CDPH issued AFL 20-38.6, Visitor Limitations Guidance, to expand CDPH’s visitation guidance allowing facilities with substantial or lower COVID-19 county positivity rates to encourage safely getting more visitors to the bedside and updating prior recommendations for visitation. On March 19, 2021, the Community Care Licensing Division of the California Department of Social Services issued Provider Information Notice (PIN) 21-17-ASC, informing Adult and Senior Care (ASC) residential licensees of updates to the statewide waiver for visitation, and updates to guidance on communal dining, group activities, non-essential services, residents returning from outings and new admissions.

With this new statewide guidance, Order No. 20-07 is no longer necessary. Accordingly, **this Order rescinds Health Officer Order No. 20-07 to bring the County into alignment with the restrictions, terms, and conditions imposed under AFL 20-22.6, AFL 20-38.6, and PIN 21-17-ASC.**



UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 101040, 101085, AND 120175, THE HEALTH OFFICE FOR THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA HEREBY ORDERS THAT:

1. Health Officer Order No. 20-07, issued April 13, 2020, is hereby RESCINDED. Long-Term Care Facilities and Other Agencies, as defined by that Order shall not be required to comply with its terms as of the Effective Date of this Health Officer Order No. 20-07a, but must instead comply with state regulations and guidance regarding the subjects of Order No. 20-07.
2. This Order shall become effective at 12:01 a.m. on June 4, 2021.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. Moss", is written over a light gray circular watermark.

Nicholas J. Moss, MD, MPH
Health Officer of the County of Alameda

6/4/21

Date