

Blueprint for Success Series: Part 4

Building Blocks 8-10

The **Comagine Health Blueprint for Success Series** for assisted living facilities (ALFs) includes step-by-step instructions, templates and tools for creating and revising a best practice Infection Prevention and Control Program (IPCP). At the end of the series, a toolkit will be compiled containing all building blocks overviews, the forms and tools associated with each of the 10 building blocks, as well as templates and examples for reference.

Blueprint Curriculum

Building Block No. 1 – Oversight for IPC Program

Building Block No. 2 - Designated Infection Prevention Specialist

Building Block No. 3 – Annual IPCP Assessment Process

Building Block No. 4 – Infection Control Policies and Procedures

Building Block No. 5 – Health Care Environmental IPCP

Building Block No. 6 – IPCP: Education for Residents and Staff

Building Block No. 7 – IPCP: Health for Residents and Staff

Building Block No. 8 – Health Care Surveillance Program

Building Block No. 9 - IPCP Emergency Preparedness

Building Block No. 3 – Quality Assurance/Performance Improvement

Goals of the Infection Prevention and Control Program



Building Block No. 8

Healthcare Surveillance Program

WHAT? The surveillance plan is a simple process where the IPS identifies key things related to infection control to monitor/audit. Then the results (data) from that activity is put into a format so it can be reviewed and used to analyze if there are improvements needed for infection control reasons.

WHY? Data is required to be able to objectively monitor processes and outcomes and make decisions about interventions when needed.

HOW? The IPS can use the tool in the template and resource section to identify several key infection control related things to monitor and provide the results to the IPCP Oversight committee/group regularly.



Building Block No. 9

IPCP Emergency Preparedness

Mitigate potential disease transmission

- Supplies (e.g. PPE, soap, hand rub, disinfectant, etc.)
- Trash and biohazardous waste
- Environmental contamination
- Potable water
- Communication internally/externally

Emerging infectious diseases

- Novel outbreaks
- Highly communicable diseases
- Pandemics
- Infectious resident surge
- Bioterrorism

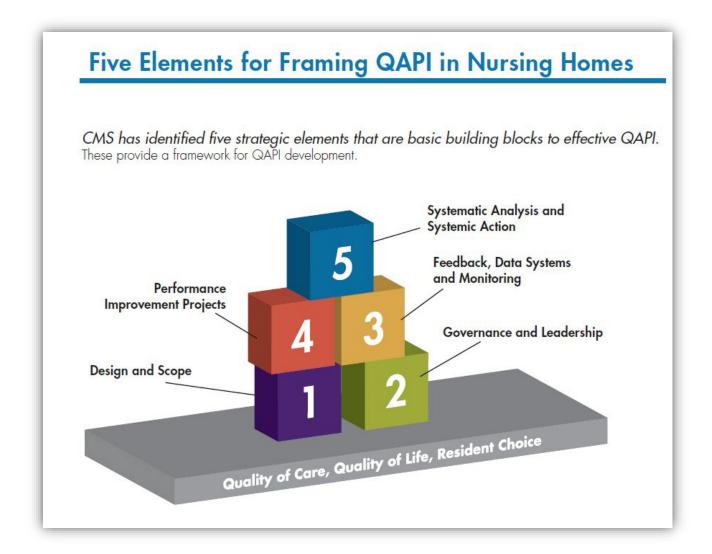
WHAT? Mitigation of potential disease transmission must be considered when a disaster or an emergency occurs, such as during and after a fire, natural disaster, or utility failure. The emergency preparedness plan must also include preparedness for emerging infectious diseases. This may include outbreaks of novel or "new" pathogens, highly communicable diseases or high threat pathogens, such as Ebola, avian flu, SARS, SARS CoV2, etc, pandemics, such as COVID-19 or influenza, a surge in infectious residents, and bioterrorism.

WHY? Preparedness plans capture the assisted living community's approach to meeting the health, safety, and security needs of staff and residents during an emergency or disaster. The plan will also protect residents, families, and staff from harm resulting from exposure to an emerging infectious disease while they are in the assisted living community.

HOW? Ensure that infection prevention and control measures are included in the preparation and planning of disaster and emergency preparedness plans. The emerging infectious diseases preparedness plan consists of several elements, including persons assigned responsibility, facility communication, supplies and resources, identification and management of ill residents, considerations for visitors, occupational health, education and training, and surge capacity.

Block No. 10

Quality Assurance/Performance Improvement



WHAT? Using a systematic approach to make observations on Infection Control practices and create improvement plans when needed is an evidence-based approach to a program of excellence.

WHY? Using this approach is easy, reproducible, and effective.

HOW? Using the template along with the resources in the toolkit, the IPS can develop a PIP when indicated by surveillance and other means which will help monitor the effectiveness of interventions and measure improvement.

Part 4 Attachments

- Attachment 1: ALF Rounding Tool: EVS Carts and Closets Practices
- Attachment 2: ALF Checklist: Emerging Infectious Diseases Preparedness
- Attachment 3: ALF ICPC PIP Template

ALF Rounding Tool: EVS Carts and Closets Practices

Date:	Completed by:	Unit/Location:

	IPC Monthly Rounds	Yes	No	N/A	Comments
EVS Cart	ts				
and a	isinfectants being used all approved by IC are EPA-registered hospital-grade fectants?				
	ll chemicals in appropriate containers and ed correctly?				
	isinfectant and antiseptic products within ation dates?				
	hemicals being used per manufacturer's tions for mixing and use?				
5. Is the	ere physical separation of clean and dirty 6?				
	per stored above liquids to reduce amination risk?				
area	hnny mop" located on front deck or similar of cart with other "dirty" tools and esses?				
8. Is the	e cart lock in working order?				
9. Is car	t locked when unattended?				
	t clean in appearance, well-organized and rfaces cleanable?				
areas feath	usting tools being used in resident care that support damp dusting techniques (no er dusters or Swiffers in use, etc.) with high-handles?				
	extiles (cloths/mops) appear to be in good ition and visibly clean in appearance prior to				
	sinfectant bottles have pour spouts (vs. bottles)?	_			
14. Is car	t free from food and drink?				
15. Is car etc.)?	t free from personal items (purse, phones,				

EVS Closets	
16. Is closet neat, clean and sanitary in appearance and in good repair?	
17. Are supplies stored on shelves, paper above liquid, clean items off of floor?	
18. Are paper items stored away from water source?	
19. Do floors in closet appear to be cleaned and disinfected on regular basis?	
20. Is the floor sink clean and sanitary in appearance?	
21. Are equipment items clean and sanitary in appearance?	
22. Do all chemical containers have labels?	
23. Are all products in closet within expiration dates?	
24. Is closet free from dirty items, including mops, dirty mop buckets and other items that would be considered "dirty"?	
25. Is eye protection available and used by staff when handling opened, concentrated disinfectant, including dispensing from the bulk mixing cabinet?	
Is EVS staff present? If yes, name:	
26. Are dress code and hygiene policies, including fingernail policy, followed?	
27. Does employee know name of disinfectant and length of undisturbed "contact time" required for effective disinfection?	
28. Is a standard policy being followed for room cleaning that includes moving in one direction around the room, moving from high to low and from cleanest to dirtiest areas?	
Notes including any recommendations for improve	vement:

Assisted Living Facility (ALF) Checklist: Emerging Infectious Diseases Preparedness

Date: Click or tap to enter a date. Completed by: Click or tap here to enter name.

	Structure for planning and decision making	Completed	In progress	Not started	Comments
1.	Emerging infectious disease preparedness has been incorporated into emergency management planning for the facility				Click or tap here to enter text.
2.	A multidisciplinary planning committee or team* has been created specifically to address emerging infectious disease preparedness planning *An existing emergency or disaster preparedness team may be assigned this responsibility List committee's or team's name:				Click or tap here to enter text.
	Click or tap here to enter text.				
3.	People assigned responsibility for coordinating emerging infectious diseases preparedness planning Insert name(s), title(s), and contact information: Click or tap here to enter text.				Click or tap here to enter text.
4.	Members assigned to the planning committee or team				
	Insert names, titles, & contact information:				Click or tap here to enter text.
	Click or tap here to enter text.				
5.	The facility's emerging infectious diseases coordinator has contacted local or regional planning groups to obtain information on coordinating the facility's plan with other emerging infectious diseases plans Insert groups and contact information:				Click or tap here to enter text.
	Click or tap here to enter text.				
	Development of a written emerging infectious diseases preparedness plan	Completed	In progress	Not started	Comments
6.	A copy of the emerging infectious diseases preparedness plan is available at the facility and is accessible by staff				Click or tap here to enter text.
7.	Relevant sections of federal, state, regional or local plans for emerging infectious diseases are reviewed for incorporation into the facility's plan				Click or tap here to enter text.
8.	The plan identifies the person(s) authorized to implement the plan and the organizational structure that will be used				Click or tap here to enter text.
9.	The facility plan includes the "elements" listed below				Click or tap here to enter text.

	Elements of an emerging infectious diseases plan	Completed	In Progress	Not Started	Comments
Ge	neral				
10.	A plan is in place for protecting residents, healthcare personnel and visitors from emerging infectious diseases that addresses the elements that follow				Click or tap here to enter text.
11.	A person has been assigned responsibility for monitoring public health advisories (federal and state) and updating the emerging infectious diseases coordinator and members of the emerging infectious diseases preparedness planning committee or team when an emerging infectious disease is in the geographic area Insert name, title, and contact information of person responsible Click or tap here to enter text.				Click or tap here to enter text.
12.	The facility has a process for inter-facility transfers that includes notifying transport personnel and receiving facilities about a resident's suspected or confirmed diagnosis (e.g., presence of symptoms of or known emerging infectious disease) prior to transfer				Click or tap here to enter text.
13.	The facility has a system to monitor for, and internally review, development of emerging infectious diseases among residents and healthcare personnel (HCP) in the facility. Information from this monitoring system is used to implement prevention interventions (e.g., isolation, cohorting)				Click or tap here to enter text.
14.	The facility has infection control policies that outline the recommended transmission-based precautions that should be used when caring for residents with communicable diseases/conditions				Click or tap here to enter text.
15.	The facility periodically reviews specific IPC guidance for healthcare facilities caring for residents with suspected or confirmed emerging infectious disease				Click or tap here to enter text.
Fac	cility communications				
16.	Key public health points of contact during an emerging infectious disease outbreak have been identified Insert name, title, and contact information for each Local health department contact: Click or tap here to enter text. State health department contact: Click or tap here to enter text. State long-term care professional/trade association: Click or tap here to enter text.				Click or tap here to enter text.
17.	A person has been assigned responsibility for communications with public health authorities during an emerging infectious disease outbreak Insert name and contact information: Click or tap here to enter text.				Click or tap here to enter text.

18.	Key preparedness (e.g., health care coalition) points of contact during an emerging infectious disease outbreak have been identified Insert name, title, and contact information for each: Click or tap here to enter text.			Click or tap here to enter text.
19.	A person has been assigned responsibility for communications with staff, residents and their families regarding the status and impact of the emerging infectious disease in the facility			Click or tap here to enter text.
20.	Contact information for family members or guardians of the facility residents is up to date			Click or tap here to enter text.
21.	Communication plans include how-to signs, phone trees, and other methods of communication, which will be used to inform staff, family members, visitors and other persons coming into the facility about the status of the emerging infectious disease in the facility			Click or tap here to enter text.
22.	A list has been created of other healthcare entities and their points of contact with whom it will be necessary to maintain communication during an outbreak (e.g., other long-term care and residential facilities, local hospitals and hospital emergency medical services and relevant community organizations – including those involved with disaster preparedness) Attach a copy of contact list			Click or tap here to enter text.
23.	A facility representative(s) has been involved in the discussion of local plans for inter-facility communication during an outbreak			Click or tap here to enter text.
Su	oplies and resources			
24.	Alcohol-based hand sanitizer for hand hygiene is available in every resident room (ideally both inside and outside of the room) and other resident care and common areas			Click or tap here to enter text.
25.	Sinks are well-stocked with soap and paper towels for hand washing			Click or tap here to enter text.
26.	Signs are posted immediately outside of resident rooms indicating appropriate IPC precautions and required personal protective equipment (PPE)			Click or tap here to enter text.
27.	Facility provides tissues and facemasks for coughing people near entrance and in common areas with no-touch receptacles for disposal			Click or tap here to enter text.
28.	Necessary PPE is available immediately outside of the resident room and in other areas where resident care is provided			Click or tap here to enter text.
29.	Facilities should have supplies of face masks, respirators (if facility has a respiratory protection program with trained, medically cleared and fit-tested HCP), gowns, gloves and eye protection			Click or tap here to enter text.
	Trash disposal bins should be positioned near the exit	-	-	

	before providing care for another resident in the same room		
31.	Facility ensures HCP have access to EPA-registered hospital-grade disinfectants to allow for frequent cleaning of high-touch surfaces and shared resident care equipment (products with EPA-approved specific pathogen claim or emerging pathogen claims are recommended)		Click or tap here to enter text.
32.	The facility has a process to monitor supply levels		Click or tap here to enter text.
33.	The facility has a contingency plan, which includes engaging their health department and healthcare coalition when they experience (or anticipate experiencing) supply shortages		Click or tap here to enter text.
lde	ntification and management of ill residents		
34.	The facility has a process to identify and manage residents with symptoms of the emerging infectious disease upon admission and daily during their stay in the facility, which include implementation of appropriate transmission-based precautions		Click or tap here to enter text.
35.	The facility has criteria and a protocol for initiating active surveillance for the emerging infectious disease among residents and HCP		Click or tap here to enter text.
36.	The facility has developed plans on how to immediately notify the health department for clusters of the emerging infectious disease		Click or tap here to enter text.
37.	The facility has criteria and a protocol for limiting symptomatic and exposed residents to their room, halting group activities and communal dining and closing units or the entire facility to new admissions		Click or tap here to enter text.
38.	The facility has criteria and a process for cohorting residents with symptoms of the emerging infectious disease, including dedicating HCP to work only on affected units		Click or tap here to enter text.
Со	nsiderations about visitors		
39.	The facility has plans and material developed to post signs at the entrances to the facility instructing visitors not to visit if they have symptoms of the emerging infectious disease		Click or tap here to enter text.
40.	The facility has criteria and protocol for when visitors will be limited or restricted from the facility		Click or tap here to enter text.
41.	Should visitor restrictions be implemented, the facility has a process to allow for remote communication between the resident and visitor (e.g., video-call applications on cell phones or tablets) and has policies addressing when visitor restrictions will be lifted (e.g., end of life situation)		Click or tap here to enter text.
Oc	cupational health		
42.	The facility has sick leave policies that are non-punitive, flexible and consistent with public health policies that		Click or tap here to enter text.

allow ill HCP to stay home		
43. The facility instructs HCP (including consultant personnel) to regularly monitor themselves for symptoms of the emerging infectious disease, as a part of routine practice		Click or tap here to enter text.
44. The facility has a process to actively screen HCP for symptoms of the emerging infectious disease when they report to work		Click or tap here to enter text.
45. The facility has a process to identify and manage HCP with symptoms of the emerging infectious disease		Click or tap here to enter text.
46. The facility has a plan for monitoring and assigning work restrictions for ill and exposed HCP		Click or tap here to enter text.
47. The facility has a respiratory protection plan that includes medical evaluation, training and fit testing of employees		Click or tap here to enter text.
Education and training		
48. The facility has plans to provide education and training to HCP, consulting HCP, residents and family members of residents to help them understand the implications of, and basic prevention and control measures for the emerging infectious disease		Click or tap here to enter text.
49. A person has been designated with responsibility for coordinating education and training of the emerging infectious disease (e.g., identified and facilitates access to available programs, maintains a record of personnel attendance)		Click or tap here to enter text.
Insert name, title, and contact information: Click or tap here to enter text.		
50. Language and reading-level appropriate materials have been identified to supplement and support education and training programs to HCP, residents and family members of residents (e.g., available through state and federal public health agencies and through professional organizations), and a plan is in place for obtaining these materials		Click or tap here to enter text.
51. Plans and material developed for education and jobspecific training of HCP which includes information on recommended infection control measures to prevent the spread of the emerging infectious disease, including: Signs and symptoms of the emerging infectious disease How to monitor residents for signs and symptoms of the emerging infectious disease How to keep residents, visitors, and HCP safe by using correction infection control practices including hand hygiene and selection and use of PPE. Training should include return demonstration Staying home when ill HCP sick leave policies and recommended actions for unprotected exposures (e.g., not using recommended PPE, and unrecognized infectious patient contact)		Click or tap here to enter text.

52.	The facility has a plan for expediting the credentialing and training of non-facility HCP brought in from other locations to provide resident care when the facility reaches a staffing crisis			Click or tap here to enter text.
53.	Informational materials (e.g., brochures, posters) on the emerging infectious disease and relevant policies (e.g., suspension of visitation, where to obtain facility or family member information) have been developed or identified for residents and their families. These materials are language and reading-level appropriate, and a plan is in place to disseminate these materials in advance of the actual pandemic			Click or tap here to enter text.
Sui	rge capacity			
	• Staffing			
54.	A contingency staffing plan has been developed that identifies the minimum staffing needs and prioritizes critical and non-essential services based on the residents' health status, functional limitations, disabilities and essential facility operations			Click or tap here to enter text.
55.	A person has been assigned responsibility for conducting a daily assessment of staffing status and needs during the emerging infectious disease outbreak Insert name, title, and contact information: Click or tap here to enter text.			Click or tap here to enter text.
56.	Legal counsel and state health department contacts have been consulted to determine the applicability of declaring a facility "staffing crisis" and appropriate emergency staffing alternatives, consistent with state laws			Click or tap here to enter text.
57.	The staffing plan includes strategies for collaborating with local and regional planning and response groups to address widespread healthcare staffing shortages during a crisis			Click or tap here to enter text.
	Consumables and durable medical equipment and	supplies		
58.	Estimates have been made of the quantities of essential resident care materials and equipment and personal protective equipment that would be needed during an eight-week outbreak			Click or tap here to enter text.
59.	Estimates have been shared with local, regional and tribal planning groups to better plan stockpiling agreements			Click or tap here to enter text.
60.	A plan has been developed to address likely supply shortages (e.g., PPE), including strategies for using normal and alternative channels for procuring needed resources			Click or tap here to enter text.
61.	A strategy has been developed for how priorities would be made in the event there is a need to allocate limited resident care equipment, pharmaceuticals and other resources			Click or tap here to enter text.

62. A process is in place to track and report available quantities of consumable medical supplies including PPE				Click or tap here to enter text.	
Postmortem care					
63. A contingency plan has been developed for managing an increased need for postmortem care and disposition of deceased residents				Click or tap here to enter text.	
64. An area in the facility that could be used as a temporary morgue has been identified				Click or tap here to enter text.	
65. Local plans for expanding morgue capacity have been discussed with local and regional planning contacts				Click or tap here to enter text.	
This checklist has been derived and generalized for emerging infectious diseases from: CDC: COVID-19 Preparedness Checklist for Nursing Homes and other Long-Term Care Settings					

Performance Improvement Project (PIP) Template

The purpose of this PIP is to address an identified opportunity for improvement in the infection prevention and control program at the assisted living facility. This form should be completed by the PIP team and used as a guide to support improvement efforts.

Date: Click or tap here to enter text.	Title of PIP: Click or tap here to enter text.
Identify the concern/opportunity being address	ssed by this PIP:
Click or tap here to enter text.	
Identify the goal – write one sentence on what	t this PIP aims to achieve:
Click or tap here to enter text.	
Activity goals - list activities that will help you	reach goal:
Activity goals - list activities that will help you	reacii goai.
Click or tap here to enter text.	
Document lessons learned - after completing t	he PIP and reporting it to the quality IPC group:
Click or tap here to enter text.	
Determine most stone based on vessite of sum	cillance and the often internentional tunining and
• •	eillance audits after interventional training and intervention is working and that the performance
Click or tap here to enter text.	