



Patient Safety, Risk, and Quality Update

From Allied World and ECRI

March 2021

The following news and guidance were recently made available without login from ECRI's Health System Risk Management and related services. If you have any questions, please email Ajay Aggarwal at Ajay.Aggarwal@awac.com.

News

Quarantine Still Needed for Fully Vaccinated Healthcare Workers, Residents in Healthcare Settings Following Exposure to COVID-19, CDC Says

Healthcare workers and residents in healthcare settings who are fully vaccinated against the coronavirus (COVID-19) disease should continue to quarantine if exposed to suspected or known cases of the SARS-CoV-2 infection, even though this is not recommended for all other persons.

[Read the full summary.](#)

Pandemic Highlights Need to Prioritize the Well-Being of the Healthcare Workforce

As of February 5, 2021, a total of 3,373 healthcare workers had died from the coronavirus (COVID-19), according to an investigation by *The Guardian* and Kaiser Health News.

[Read the full summary.](#)

Mask Fit Modifications May Reduce Spread of COVID-19 Virus, CDC Says

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) suggests that mask fit modifications may reduce the spread of the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes coronavirus disease), according to a February 10, 2021, report.

[Read the full summary.](#)

Medical Equipment May Be a Transmission Route for SARS-CoV-2 in Long-Term Care Facilities

Medical equipment is a potential environmental route for transmission of the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2) in long-term care facilities, according to a study in the February 2021 issue of the *American Journal of Infection Control*.

[Read the full summary.](#)

CDC Updates Guidance on Testing for SARS-CoV-2 Antigens in Long-Term Care Settings

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has revised its guidance on when to test residents in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities for antigens to SARS-CoV-2 (the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus-2, which causes COVID-19), what to do with discordant results, and more.

[Read the full summary.](#)