

Heritage Waterside Assisted Living Policy & Procedure
Infection Control Policy
No Resident/Patient Left Alone Act SB 988

Infection Control Policy and Procedure for Residents, Families, Visitors and Staff

(No Resident Left Alone)

Policy:

Heritage Waterside has developed and implemented our infection control policy for visitors to align with the **No Resident Left Alone order**. Within this order we will also follow ACHA regulations, CDC guidelines, federal, state, and local regulations.

What is Infection Control?

In health care and public health practice settings, infection control includes various measures that prevent and contain the spread of infectious disease. These measures include:

- Hand Washing
- Infection control standard, contact, droplet, and airborne precautions
- Procedures for decontamination of persons and disinfection of equipment and the environment
- Quarantine of contacts (if necessary)
- Prophylaxis of exposed individuals
- Control of the vectors of infection

Purpose:

To prevent or decrease the exposure of residents and employees to diseases and infections and to establish and maintain a surveillance program of identifying, reporting, and analyzing infections.

Reference:

Methods to Stop the Spread of Germs, Hand Washing precautions and to follow the order for **No Resident Left Alone**: With the order Heritage Waterside **will no longer limit visitations or block visitation rights to families and or visitors unless warranted for the safety and welfare of our residents and employees.**

Related documents:

Order # No Resident Left Alone

Procedures:

1. Heritage Waterside's Infection Control Plan conforms to CDC guidelines, ACHA, federal requirements, state and local regulations and currently accepted standards of practice. The plan meets or exceeds the standards established by the Department of Health, CDC guidelines, **No Resident Left Alone order that allows visitors and families with no restrictions.**
2. Heritage Watersides Infection Control Plan establishes and implements policies and procedures for controlling employee and resident exposure to all diseases. These policy and procedures include but are not limited to:

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- Identifies all residents and employees at risk of exposure to any diseases that could potentially affect each other or family members
- Establishes procedures for the evaluation of circumstances surrounding exposure incidents.

Establishes a training program upon employment which:

- Educates residents and staff on the Infection Control Program
- Advises residents and employees of any revisions or when changes occur
- Provides record keeping in accordance with regulations
- Ensures that provisions of equipment and supplies necessary to minimize the risk of any potential infections are available
- Ensures that all PPE is available if any infections occur.
- Establishes a process for educating residents / employees regarding infection control policies and procedures.
- Establishes a surveillance program for infections acquired in health care settings
- Reviews the programs effectiveness systematically and revise, as necessary
- Establishes policies and procedures that will reduce the spread of infections to employees and residents
- Monitors staff adherence to recommended policies, procedures, and protective measures when monitoring reveals a failure to follow recommended precautions.
- Counseling, education, and or retraining will be provided, if necessary, appropriate disciplinary action will be provided when warranted.

Heritage Waterside screens staff and residents according to ACHA regulations for any potential communicable diseases and takes all precautionary measures to ensure to the best of our ability to keep all residents and staff safe from all potential exposures.

1. Heritage Waterside has set goals for our Infection Control Program
 - To reduce the risk of all infections
 - To limit exposure to all potentially infectious diseases by implementing and following CDC and OSHA guidelines
 - To improve hand hygiene compliance throughout the entire facility
 - To minimize the risk of transmitting any associated infections with the use of medical equipment, and medical devices used by residents and or staff
 - To improve protocols with staff on what to do if they are sick or present to work being sick
2. Emergency operations planning for all potential infectious diseases and or outbreaks include but are not limited to:
 - Heritage Waterside will be prepared to respond to an influx, or risk of an influx of any potential infectious disease
3. To manage an influx or ongoing influx of any potentially exposed resident or employee Heritage Waterside will work with the CDC, OSHA and any other entity to help assist us with protocols to follow if such an influx happens.

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4. Heritage Waterside will keep abreast of and obtain current information of any potential risks that could cause an increased number of potentially infectious diseases that could affect our residents and staff through communication with resources related to hospitals, CDC, Federal, state, and local health department, offices of emergency management and local media, television, radio, and newspaper when warranted.
5. Critical information will be disseminated to residents, families, staff, medical physicians, and leaders through e-mail, voicemail, telephone contact, and staff meetings
6. The risk analysis defines the current surveillance activities and will be reviewed systematically, or whenever significant changes occur
7. Heritage Waterside Leadership Team along with the Safety and Risk team will assign responsibility for our Infection Control Policy and Plan
 - The assigned individuals will be qualified for such responsibilities based on education, additional training and or experience
 - The individuals will coordinate all activities and assure ongoing surveillance, data collection, aggregation, analysis, and monitoring of the effectiveness of the program

8. The individual meets regularly with leaders, managers, and staff to:
 - Develop strategies
 - Review and react (as appropriate) to surveillance data
 - Assess successes and failures of programs
 - Review and revise programs as needed according to potential diseases
 - Perform annual infection control program evaluations