

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021

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HOUSE BILL 764

Short Title: ACH/Infection Prevention Requirements. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Wray.

For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Health, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

May 4, 2021

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT UPDATING ADULT CARE HOME INFECTION PREVENTION
3 REQUIREMENTS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 SECTION 1. G.S. 131D-4.4A reads as rewritten:

6 "§ 131D-4.4A. Adult care home infection prevention requirements.

7 (a) As used in this section, "adult care home staff" means any employee of an adult care
8 home involved in direct resident care.

9 (b) In order to prevent transmission of HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and other bloodborne
10 pathogens, infectious diseases, each adult care home shall do all of the following, beginning
11 January 1, 2012: following:

12 (1) Implement and maintain within the facility a written infection prevention and
13 control policy consistent with the federal Centers for Disease Control and
14 Prevention guidelines national standards on infection control that addresses
15 control, which shall be accessible to all adult care home staff working at the
16 facility. The policy shall include at least all of the following:

- 17 a. Proper disposal of single-use equipment used to puncture skin, mucous
18 membranes, and other tissues, and proper disinfection of reusable
19 patient-resident care items that are used for multiple residents.
- 20 b. Sanitation of rooms and equipment, including cleaning procedures,
21 agents, and schedules.
- 22 c. Accessibility of infection control devices and supplies.
- 23 d. Blood and bodily fluid precautions.
- 24 e. Procedures to be followed when adult care home staff is exposed to
25 blood or other body fluids of another person in a manner that poses a
26 significant risk of transmission of HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, or
27 other bloodborne pathogens.
- 28 f. Procedures to prohibit adult care home staff with exudative lesions or
29 weeping dermatitis from engaging in direct resident care that involves
30 the potential for contact between the resident, equipment, or devices
31 and the lesion or dermatitis until the condition resolves.
- 32 g. Standard and transmission-based precautions, including the following:
- 33 1. Respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette.
- 34 2. Environmental cleaning and disinfection.
- 35 3. Reprocessing and disinfection of reusable resident devices.



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4. Hand hygiene.
 5. Accessibility and proper use of personal protective equipment.
 6. Types of transmission-based precautions and when each type is indicated, including contact precautions, droplet precautions, and airborne precautions.
- h. When and how to report to the local health department suspected or confirmed, reportable communicable disease cases or conditions, or communicable disease outbreaks.
- i. Measures the facility should consider for specific types of communicable disease outbreaks in order to prevent the spread of illness, such as:
1. Isolating infected residents.
 2. Limiting or stopping group activities and communal dining.
 3. Restricting outside visitation to the facility.
 4. Screening staff, residents, and visitors for signs of illness.
 5. Using source control as tolerated by the residents.
- j. Strategies for addressing potential staffing issues and ensuring adequate staffing is available to meet the needs of the residents during a communicable disease outbreak.
- (2) Require and monitor compliance with the facility's infection control policy.
- (3) Update the infection control policy as necessary to ~~prevent the transmission of HIV, hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and other bloodborne pathogens.~~maintain consistency with the infection prevention and control guidelines included in the course developed by the Department pursuant to G.S. 131D-4.5C.
- (4) Designate one on-site staff member for each noncontiguous facility who is knowledgeable about the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines on infection control to direct the facility's infection control activities and ensure that all adult care staff is trained in the facility's written infection prevention and control policy. ~~Beginning October 1, 2013, any policy developed pursuant to subdivision (b)(1) of this section within 30 days after hire and annually thereafter. Any nonsupervisory staff member designated to direct the facility's infection control activities shall complete the infection control course developed by the Department pursuant to G.S. 131D-4.5C.~~
- (5) When a communicable disease outbreak has been identified at a facility or there is an emerging infectious disease threat, the facility shall ensure implementation of the facility's infection control and prevention policy developed pursuant to subdivision (b)(1) of this section and related policies and procedures. Notwithstanding this subdivision, if guidance or directives specific to the communicable disease outbreak or emerging infectious disease threat have been issued in writing by the Department or local health department, the specific guidance or directives shall be implemented by the facility."

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective October 1, 2021.