**Colorado Crisis Standards of Care**

**Palliative Care and Hospice Workgroup**

**Notes 9/3/20**

22 Participants.

1. Welcome and Introductions
   1. Meeting Recording [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VN-OjtPsGEM&feature=youtu.be).
   2. Meeting Materials [here](http://www.nationalhospiceanalytics.com/hospice-care-products-and-services/co-crisis-standards-of-care).
2. CHER Updates, Jean Abbott, MD MH
   1. Dr. Abbott was unable to attend today. Some updates from Tuesday’s CHER call include: COVID updates from hospitals and other facilities; downward trend of new cases; discussion regarding availability of vaccinations and when they may become available; CHER subgroup working on a Moral Distress webpage / resources.
3. CDPHE Updates, Jenn Klus, MPH, [jenn.klus@state.co.us](mailto:jenn.klus@state.co.us)
   1. CHER Moral Distress Workgroup / Webpage: They are trying to bring together Colorado healthcare workers experiencing Moral Distress for a video project (could be voice only) to show we’re all in this together. Contact Jenn if you or a team member would like to participate. Lori McCoy offered to contact Jenn with someone from her team.
   2. Hospice Medical Directors: CDPHE would like to meet with all Hospice Medical Directors – particularly hospices with inpatient units – to understand concerns and discuss importance of data collection. Please share their name and contact information with Jenn.
   3. “Verbal” Advance Directives Signatures – under discussion, no updates.
   4. Palliative Care Awareness Project: A 3-minute video project to share with Colorado providers regarding what palliative care is, including patients and families. Currently working on identifying the right questions to ask in the interviews. Tricia Ford, Care Synergy, expressed interest in participating.
4. Weekly Hospice Survey, Cordt Kassner, PhD
   1. Colorado hospice data collection: Please complete this survey every Friday by noon. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HA-CSC>.
   2. Discussion of recent articles:
      1. [Colorado to begin allowing indoor visitation at nursing homes as soon as next week](https://coloradosun.com/2020/08/26/colorado-nursing-homes-indoor-visitation/?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Dragon+Eggs+/+Trump+s+sour+poll+numbers+/+Beer+slushies+/+Reservations+to+ski+/+Why+Denver+s+housing+ma). Discussion of how visits might work, and reference to [CDPHE’s Indoor Visit in Residential Care Facilities](https://covid19.colorado.gov/press-release/state-seeks-feedback-on-draft-indoor-visitation-guidance-for-residential-care).
      2. [CMS to Require COVID Tests for Hospice Staff Visiting Nursing Homes](http://www.nationalhospiceanalytics.com/hospice-care-products-and-services/co-crisis-standards-of-care/%22https:/)
      3. [DeSantis relaxes some visitation restrictions for long-term care facilities](https://www.news4jax.com/news/local/2020/09/01/emotional-desantis-lifts-some-visitation-limits-for-long-term-care-facilities/)
      4. [St. Croix Hospice launches weekly COVID-19 testing for all field staff](https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/st-croix-hospice-launches-weekly-covid-19-testing-for-all-field-staff-301121751.html)
      5. [COVID and Research Universities - so much info, so little evidence](https://donaldhtaylorjr.wordpress.com/2020/09/03/covid-and-research-universities-so-much-info-so-little-evidence/)
5. Moral Distress, potential presentation from Dr. Joy Berger?
   1. The group agreed to ask Dr. Berger for a 30-minute presentation on Moral Distress during an upcoming Zoom. This would be at no charge, although if people wanted to follow-up with her for additional information or consulting that would be at her fee.
      1. Dr. Joy Berger, "[Five Key Stressors Hospice Professionals Face, with Guidance for Support](https://go.nethealth.com/l/125911/2020-08-04/7cz4p9?utm_source=Berger_Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=ebook&utm_campaign=2020.08.04_Hospice_5_Key_Stressors_eBook)". Free E-Book.
      2. Would Joy be interested in joining the CHER Moral Distress group?
6. Additional Discussion, Cathy Wagner, RN MSN MBA
   1. Colorado Healthy Families Workplace Act: [CO SB20-205](https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb20-205) impacts how we pay people with COVID related leave. Is PTO part of sick leave? Heather share a [link](https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/colorado-enacts-the-healthy-families-65200/) was shared for a legal summary of this issue, including:
      1. It was asked if an employer already provides PTO if they would be required to provide additional leave. The short answer is no, as long as they meet the basic requirements. Per Section 4:

An employer that has a paid leave policy for its employees may satisfy the requirements of this section and section 8-13.3-405 and is not required to provide additional paid sick leave to its employees if the employer..." provides paid leave that meets or exceeds the accrual rates as outlined in the bill as well as allows employees to use this paid leave as the sick leave outlined in the bill.

Accrual rate is 1 hour for every 30 hours worked, maxing out at 48 hours (effective Jan 1, 2021).

* + 1. The legislation takes great care to say an employer can offer more than the bare minimum and there is no requirement to pay this leave out if it is unused.
    2. Colorado Workplace Public Health Rights poster with details on this [here](https://www.laborlawcenter.com/colorado-workplace-public-health-rights-poster/).
  1. Flu Vaccine: Is it required, what about those who refuse, etc.? What are hospices doing about vaccines? Participants noted they are “highly encouraging it”. Some are hosting flu clinics at their offices.
  2. If CMS requires weekly COVID testing for hospice staff going into facilities, this may be challenging for smaller hospices. Who will be paying for tests? What if staff don’t want to be tested (don’t want to have a positive test – how to use PTO). Whose responsibility is it to test (the facility or the hospice)?
     1. Explore this COVID testing issue and discuss on future call. We can all research it, and also ask CDPHE and perhaps Dr. Steve Cantrill to participate?
  3. **CDPHE Indoor Visitation**: Terri forwarded the following guidance:

To:

Residential Care Facilities (Skilled nursing facilities, assisted living residences, group homes, and intermediate care facilities)

On 9/3/20 [Public Health Order 20-20](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001W3dHyXommbsFalu6bE8LKIFxDstO28_FQRs22lz8w1__QRg9l9To-InOTky-SVwI92tCtlZY-f366QF4vxE3XM_hZsHTA90FJ0bxmO9vH2KA6PCEdQJiXEtdrlV4GeUYVrMFVYoGLDXTWWarOz2GFvxByrW4lEmu2OepJjydYwoEEmG9xULZyUOoB28pL5UjI1Puio9ITIBnXLpUNhii_XSzXyGgDAv4vRteZm3hCTc=&c=T7uM3QtqL-1gHFy2mu7W0LVNFshBLPBoWn9Yuq_00Z5baa4VAwF-JQ==&ch=ENx0Q_mqsL8nO4FOpnTbhwrgPQiPYdJAIiFolV9rteSx8scpYWtThQ==) was updated to allow for indoor visitation for facilities that meet the criteria. In addition to the Public Health Order, CDPHE issued [guidance](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001W3dHyXommbsFalu6bE8LKIFxDstO28_FQRs22lz8w1__QRg9l9To-InOTky-SVwIl4Ucx5Wi5NWRSJefbr-5IUBFNQC0yZrJN20q9pdq11XfaOfCrWTGYRz8UvE8vEI8lE92s2eSbIRHzV9Q_2J9wlNoJHJo1JBjWFmiyD39IkBCbHszh5KQ9989eT_fm9f9jEZCC8fCNxqe5MgjkpdrFNlC0E5_1jOlWV4x_cXeOnVbv5ajzJTGo5ttcSqhxsul&c=T7uM3QtqL-1gHFy2mu7W0LVNFshBLPBoWn9Yuq_00Z5baa4VAwF-JQ==&ch=ENx0Q_mqsL8nO4FOpnTbhwrgPQiPYdJAIiFolV9rteSx8scpYWtThQ==) for those indoor visits. The guidance also allows for visits from service providers such as beauticians, barbers, podiatrists, dentists, and therapists.

**The guidance states facilities must meet the following criteria to implement indoor visitation:**

* Be located in counties that have less than or equal to an average of 25 new, active cases per 100,000 people over the prior 14 days or be in a county that is in the [Protect Our Neighbors Phase.](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001W3dHyXommbsFalu6bE8LKIFxDstO28_FQRs22lz8w1__QRg9l9To-InOTky-SVwIo3K178Jv8wjGXrah2YAgVcB2fMf3hFREdulyCrgg2KAvomfaAAAENBeBxShY9cbpEMyZ4jPDsaARMLNIpqC-i8FyEPnpTtD26HMBD0Nax8QKamd9DJHSeoIHiH1KB0ryPqoWiUe3RSgIQ_NhmnSRSOV-9NEFZ3lpfPHRkUFMnWm4et72lh85QFaFUF8h2CgQe6rp0jh08aMWJIuCowaQa0Bi9CxnaCmUVqghfPR0mh8lcT1GaKNKFmX8wye2jKMOmWj03LcpaL0UDzmxHmScUMFbCfx9kQjXMGRUCfWa1xpLD_6Iayjg0xWoONUAfRed6x_YK1Q5DMXbm1otvc5ICWh2N8sRvXt79QVj0JAxLeJq1lyHgmJRyOE_p-LN3X_4LI0zk8wStmklhdh5ou6OPi-H1obgeZ6zPRpYdx5inCmBHiDWKCN-xrc7W3lm5ZdRaaomc_m7Y3PX_sZGFsU83hjQn34oZa3QFXWmwGbaPQCf-g573ad1q2cd3UNKnicefzZQIdXrxGBxlhxvUcIqx7cSARJQMg3lmuV3VeOW6q4QV8dXgqxXbAojFrissK3fe0t7dMnYGuSBRsKbmtDHWx9dHwSw605GIUetbf1veSFd7dzYh94w__OBoKj4slPx1NmCPCGxuZLbT7g2kToxrl4Vexuf-e6RPPWVAgzLw9PESKkGlTcxK9rhjp0NX7F2DT_9T4BeEHauuEKX8YQT96BvVOACG0Jmj_yu7FFtyEDSDtuI9-TSxbdXvw5AwREB&c=T7uM3QtqL-1gHFy2mu7W0LVNFshBLPBoWn9Yuq_00Z5baa4VAwF-JQ==&ch=ENx0Q_mqsL8nO4FOpnTbhwrgPQiPYdJAIiFolV9rteSx8scpYWtThQ==)
* If in counties with 26 to 175 new, active cases per 100,000 people over the prior 14 days, visitors must provide documentation that they have had a negative COVID-19 test in the 48 hours preceding the visit (a PCR test or test approved by the State Lab or the FDA for use in asymptomatic people).
* Visitation is not allowed in residential care facilities in counties with more than 175 new, active cases per 100,000 people over the prior 14 days.
* Other criteria involve testing, outbreaks, personal protective equipment (PPE) supplies, and staffing.

**When indoor visitation is implemented, visitors must:**

* Have taken a COVID-19 test and received a negative result within 48 hours of conducting the visit, if applicable, based on the degree of community spread.
* Be fever-free, symptom free, and have no known exposure to COVID-19.
* Be age 18 and older.
* Schedule appointments in advance.
* Wear masks and adhere to all facility visitation rules.

**Next Zoom: Thurs 9/3/20 @ 10:00-11:00 AM using** [**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7430085211**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7430085211)**.**