



NOTICE 0320486

DATE: March 15, 2020

TO: AAA Directors; PASSPORT Site Directors; Provider Relations Directors

FROM: Matt Hobbs, Chief, Division for Community Living

RE: Provider Enrollment/Oversight and Services Emergency Protocol

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ODA, in collaboration with the Ohio Department of Medicaid, has developed emergency protocols for provider relations teams to use during the COVID-19 emergency.

On March 13, 2020, the Departments of Aging and Medicaid presented provider guidance to maximize flexibility for the agencies performing provider enrollment and oversight activities in the state's nursing facility level of care waiver programs. This guidance has been developed to reduce the number of in-person contacts staff may have with providers, and to minimize contact with Ohioans most susceptible to COVID-19.

Attached is the guidance discussed in the March 13, 2020 presentation.

Effective immediately, PAAs are permitted to implement the practice changes outlined in this guidance. This emergency protocol will remain in effect until ODA notifies the PAAs of a return to standard operations.

ODA will update this document as operational need(s) dictate. Many of these protocols will require emergency rule changes and are subject to approval from the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). If it is determined the changes implemented are not supported by CMS, ODA will notify the PAAs to discontinue the practice immediately and provide guidance to modify practice.

Note, guidance for clinical operations will be issued in a separate Notice.

In addition, a separate document will be issued to provide technical guidance in response to questions raised during the March 13, 2020 presentation.

Please direct your questions to the contacts above as appropriate.

Fostering sound public policy, research, and initiatives that benefit older Ohioans.