

## Long-Term Care Quadruple Aim for COVID-19 Response

As of April 17, 2020, about 7,000 out of 26,000 total COVID-19 deaths in the U.S. have occurred in skilled nursing facilities, and these numbers are expected to continue to rise. It is critically important that prompt action be taken to prevent unnecessary additional deaths in this vulnerable population. This White Paper has been developed over the last three weeks with post-acute and long-term care medicine experts around the country. It centers around the CALTCM Quadruple Aim for COVID-19, which forms the basis for proposed best practices in skilled nursing facilities, specifically COVID-19 Positive Post Acute Care Wings and Centers:

1. **Stellar infection control** is an absolute requirement. In order to achieve this, every nursing home should provide a full-time Infection Preventionist (IP). CALTCM and HSAG (the QIN-QIO for CA) are poised and ready to provide ongoing education, training and support for the IPs in conjunction with state and county efforts.
2. Access to **sufficient personal protective equipment (PPE)** is critical in order to prevent spread of COVID-19. Many facilities have not been able to procure sufficient PPE through their regular channels. It is likely to require governmental agency support to ensure that every nursing home, assisted living facility and group home has an adequate supply of PPE to care for their specific population of residents. It is unacceptable to experience delays in assuring adequate supplies of this literally life-saving equipment.
3. **Readily available testing** is essential to know what we're dealing with. **All staff in a nursing home must be tested** since staff are a common source of COVID-19 infections in nursing facilities. Residents must be tested if anyone in the facility is suspected of having the COVID-19 infection.
4. Every nursing home should be operating under their **emergency preparedness policy and procedure** and functioning in an incident command mode. We advise that all watch the webinar that CALTCM had on March 25, on this topic, or otherwise familiarize themselves with incident command principles and practices.  
(<https://vimeo.com/400847523/dcff9a483e>)