

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021

H.B. 764  
May 3, 2021  
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH30369-MG-145

Short Title: ACH/Infection Prevention Requirements.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Wray.

Referred to:

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.
- 36 4. Hand hygiene.



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

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