



# Department of Health

**KATHY HOCHUL**  
Governor

**JAMES V. McDONALD, M.D., M.P.H.**  
Commissioner

**JOHANNE E. MORNE, M.S.**  
Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

**DATE:** January 30, 2024  
**TO:** All Nursing Homes  
**FROM:** NYSDOH - Bureau of Healthcare Associated Infections

**Informational Message:**  
**NYS Department of Health Announces Scholarship Opportunity to Attend  
Nursing Home Infection Prevention and Control Training**

**Please distribute to: Administration, Medical Director, Infection Prevention,  
Nursing Administration, Risk Management**

The purpose of this Informational Message is to alert nursing homes and their staff in New York State of an opportunity for two staff to receive virtual training on nursing home infection prevention and control at no charge to their facilities.

### **Background**

An integral part of the New York State Department of Health's (NYSDOH) commitment to assisting nursing homes with preparing for and responding to infectious disease threats is ensuring infection prevention and control expertise is available to all nursing homes in NYS and in a manner that addresses health equity. This includes encouraging frontline nursing home staff to have up-to-date training in infection prevention and control specific to nursing homes. Therefore, recognizing the resource constraints many nursing homes face in terms of time and funds, NYSDOH has identified a reasonably priced virtual training opportunity specific to nursing homes and, in collaboration with Health Research, Inc. (HRI), is sponsoring the registration fee for up to two staff per NYS nursing home to attend this virtual training. Additional staff are encouraged to attend but will be required to pay the registration fee.

### **Long-term Care Infection Control and Prevention Educational Series**

Developed and offered through a collaboration of two long-term NYSDOH partners, the Hospital Association of New York State (HANY) and the NYS Association of Professionals in Infection Control Coordinating Council (NYSACC), this four-part webinar series geared specifically for long-term care facilities in NYS will be led by state and national infection prevention and control experts. As described in the attached flyer, topics include:

- risk assessment and plan development;
- surveillance and National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) reporting;
- hand hygiene;
- standard and transmission-based precautions;
- occupational and resident health;
- facility-acquired infections;
- cleaning and disinfection; and
- antimicrobial stewardship.

Training will be offered over four sessions, one per month, for approximately three hours per session, and taught by experts in nursing home infection prevention and control. Sessions will be recorded and access to the recordings will be available to all registered attendees. Those who attend one or more live sessions may also request continuing education credits from HANYS.

**Additional details**

These sponsorships are supported by funding awarded to HRI/NYSDOH through Cooperative Agreement number NU5CK000516 by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The training presented is solely the responsibility of the individuals presenting it and does not necessarily represent the official views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the Department of Health and Human Services.

To be eligible to accept this funding, the staff member must be 1) currently employed by a nursing home in NYS with responsibilities related to infection prevention and control; or 2) currently employed by a healthcare system in NYS with responsibility for overseeing infection prevention and control in at least one nursing home in NYS. Facilities should coordinate scholarship applications to ensure that only a maximum of two staff apply from any facility. Candidates will be required to provide the name and contact information for their employer and may be required to submit proof of employment.

For additional course specific details and to register, please visit [Long-term Care Infection Control and Prevention Educational Series \(hanys.org\)](https://www.hanys.org/long-term-care-infection-control-and-prevention-educational-series)

For questions about registration, please email [learning@hanys.org](mailto:learning@hanys.org).

For more information about this program, contact Maria Sacco, RRT, CPHQ, Director, Quality Advocacy, Research and Innovation, HANYS, at [315.399.3982](tel:315.399.3982) or [msacco@hanys.org](mailto:msacco@hanys.org).

For questions about this informational message, please write to [icp@health.ny.gov](mailto:icp@health.ny.gov)