

## Disinfecting our Seniors' Community

Senior living and assisted living communities were some of the hardest hit populations during this pandemic. In part, this is due to the nature and operations of senior living communities. Residents gather daily to eat, socialize and attend activities, making it difficult to keep SARS-CoV-2 from spreading. It was crucial to find ways to improve cleaning practices in senor living communities.



## **Dedicated to Five Stars**



Hartsfield Village Community
Healthcare System, a senior-and
assisted-living community (CCRC)
in Munster Indiana, was among
one of the successful facilities
across the country to enhance
their cleaning procedures during
the pandemic. In fact, Hartsfield
Village was able to increase their
CMS STAR-rating from 4 to 5
stars and avoid costly penalties.
These outstanding results were
accredited to five interventions
implemented by Hartsfield Village
leadership and staff.

## **Top 5 Interventions**

- In addition to routine cleaning and disinfection of high touch surfaces, Hartsfield Village Community Healthcare System incorporated the Surfacide Helios low-level UV-C System, a trio of UV-C robots, to routinely and thoroughly disinfect patient care areas, therapy gyms, common areas, staff offices and other spaces as identified. The Surfacide System allowed Hartsfield Village to reduce many bacteria and viruses in high-traffic areas.
- Hartsfield Village Community Healthcare System focused on reinforcing new cleaning protocols as well as proper use of PPE. By providing continual education as well as surveillance, The Hartsfield Village team ensured both staff and residents were using available PPE efficiently and effectively.

- Hartsfield Village Community
  Healthcare System established
  methods to provide daily phone and/or
  written updates to all patients, residents
  and family members. The goal with this
  communication was to keep patients and
  family members informed of the facility
  and county pandemic status. Additionally,
  it provided the education and resources
  necessary to ensure the overall status of
  the community.
- The Admissions team developed a thorough screening process for all new admissions, which included SARS-CoV-2 testing prior to admission. The facility developed a system for bed management that allowed Hartsfield Village Community Healthcare System to place and/or cohort patients.
- The nursing administration team implemented a comprehensive assessment of all patients and residents each shift. Symptoms were identified and addressed without delay for all patients and residents. All employees and essential healthcare personnel continue to be screened prior to entry into Hartsfield Village Community Healthcare System, which includes a temperature check. The employee health nurse worked continuously with staff to identify and manage reported symptoms appropriately.

Thanks to five interventions, Hartsfield Village Community Healthcare System improved their overall CMS STAR-rating.





"The pandemic introduced an unprecedented set of circumstances in healthcare and beyond, affecting every area of our lives. The dedicated team at Hartsfield Village rose to the challenge each day, providing outstanding care and service while putting our residents, patients, and employees first. We utilized state-of-the-art equipment, such as the Surfacide UV system, in our quest to both serve and support those who live and work in our community. I am exceptionally proud of our team and our outcomes."

Leslie Darrow, Vice President Post-Acute Services, Community Healthcare System

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