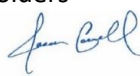


Date: February 24, 2022

To: All DD Waiver, Mi Via Waiver, Medically Fragile Waiver, Supports Waiver, State General Fund Agencies and Stakeholders

From: Jason Cornwell, Director 
Developmental Disabilities Supports Division

Subject: Revised Direction regarding Emergency Physical Restraints trainings and First Aid and CPR

To keep Direct Support Professionals (DSP) and people receiving services safe, training through Mandt, Handle with Care, and CPI will continue, using the protocol below. For First Aid and CPR, people may take in person training or elect to take live streaming courses. If taking live streaming courses, agencies may have trainees come into the office for scheduled, individualized skills demonstration.

The protocol for in-person training of physical intervention skills outlined below was first initiated by the companies that developed these interventions. The risk assumed by close physical contact during the training is considered to outweigh the risks of not having (DSP) trained in the effective use of the interventions.

If an agency (in conjunction with a person's team) considers hands-on EPR training to be necessary to keep people safe, all following guidelines must be followed to train physical intervention techniques in person:

1. Participants attending hands-on training in physical intervention techniques should not attend if they are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 (i.e., do not have COVID-19 symptoms, do not have COVID-19 and are not in a quarantine or stay at home period if exposed to COVID-19). See Policies on the Prevention and Control of COVID-19 in New Mexico available at <https://cv.nmhealth.org/covid-safe-practices/>.
2. There should be sufficient space to allow for appropriate social distancing in a well-ventilated training room or out-of-doors to allow for social distancing when the trainer and student do not need to be in close proximity for the hands-on portions of the training.
3. Prior to entering the training room, participants will sanitize or wash their hands, masks are no longer required (please see #4).
4. Masks are no longer required to be worn during the training unless an individual receiving services is participating in the training. If an individual receiving services is participating in the training, a mask must be worn, covering the mouth and nose, throughout the training, except for when the training participant is actively drinking a beverage. Eating will only occur at a

break once the person leaves the training area. If the person returns, s/he must re-sanitize their hands.

5. If allowed by the system protocol, trainers may minimize contact by a) first showing a video or providing live-streaming of the skill, b) having the student practice on a mannequin (if available) for multiple repetitions, and c) having students demonstrate skills with a partner.
6. It's allowable to practice or perform skill demonstration of any physical intervention skills with another class participant. At any time, if a class participant does not feel comfortable with skill demonstration with another member of the class, they should not be forced to complete the demonstration.

For additional information or clarification please contact your local Regional Office Trainer or Teresa Tomashot, DDSD Training Unit Manager. As always, thank you for all you do to keep people safe and for all your hard work!