

## **CMS ISSUES MORE RESTRICTIVE GUIDANCE**

**The most recent guidance from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) on nursing home infection control and prevention of COVID-19 further restricts visitation and entry to facilities and suspends communal activities.**

**All visitors, except those in compassionate care situations, such as end of life care and non-essential health care personnel are restricted. The decision about visitation during a compassionate situation are to be made on a case by case basis. Note that visitation may be further limited by state action (e.g., Governor's Executive Order).**

**Exceptions are:**

- 1) Health care personnel who meet CDC guidelines for health care workers (facility staff, but also others who provide care, such as hospice workers and dialysis technicians).**
- 2) Surveyors who have no COVID-19 symptoms.**

**Communal dining and all group activities, both internal and external, must be suspended.**

**FATE is very concerned for the health and safety of our most vulnerable citizens in long-term care facilities whose families cannot visit them. Family members are the eyes and ears of the patient and without the family visiting to ensure the safety of their loved ones, the patient is at risk. All of those who have loved ones in these facilities should find a way to communicate with them to ensure their health and safety. If possible, get a cell phone to the person to communicate with so that you will know the current status of the patient. If need be, contact FATE at (916)481-8558 and we will attempt to assist in whatever way we can.**