INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Initial Actions
If either the volume or severity of an infectious disease significantly threatens or impacts day-to-day operations, activate facility's EOP and appoint a Facility Incident Commander (IC) if warranted.
Notify the local Department of Public Health and DHEC) to report an unusual occurrence and activation of facility's EOP.
Obtain guidance from the local health department and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
Implement appropriate infection control policies and procedures.
Clearly post signs for cough etiquette, hand washing, and other hygiene measures in high visibility areas. Consider providing hand sanitizer and face/nose masks if practical.
Consider advising visitors to delay visits if needed to reduce exposure risk to residents.
Advise staff to check for signs and symptoms of illness and to not work if sick. Activate emergency staffing strategies as needed.
Limit exposure between infected and non-infected persons; consider isolation of ill persons.
Conduct recommended cleaning/decontamination in response to the infectious disease.
If needed, the procedure for Emergency Admit is included in Appendix H and the Procedure for Handling Remains is included in Appendix I.