## **Unvaccinated Ombudsman- PPE Scenarios to Consider** (Revised 9/21/2021)

SCENARIO	ACTION BY UNVACCINATED OMBUDSMAN REPRESENTATIVE PPE NEEDED and RISK MITIGATION
Residents who can engage in social distancing and mask wearing and the facility does not have COVID-19 confirmed cases.	<ul> <li>New surgical mask.</li> <li>Gloves are optional when practicing good hand hygiene (washing hands and not touching surfaces).</li> <li>Stand six feet away from the residents and staff during the conversation.</li> <li>If the Ombudsman representative is unable to maintain physical distancing, limit time with resident or staff to 15 minutes or less.</li> </ul>
Ombudsman representative working with residents who are hearing impaired and need to be close to be heard.	<ul> <li>New surgical mask.</li> <li>Gloves are optional when practicing good hand hygiene (washing hands and not touching surfaces).</li> <li>If the Ombudsman representative is unable to maintain physical distancing, limit time with resident or staff to 15 minutes or less.</li> <li>Can use a Pocket Talker or other voice amplifier. The Ombudsman representative should put the headphones on the resident and then use the device to communicate. Take the device off, sanitize. This should allow for maintaining six feet distance.</li> </ul>
Ombudsman representative needs to interview a resident who reads lips for a case investigation and obtain consent if possible.	<ul> <li>Wear clear face shield with no mask or clear mask.</li> <li>Stay six feet away.</li> <li>Limit time with resident to 15 minutes.</li> </ul>

## **SCENARIO**

The facility is known to have COVID-19 and residents cannot social distance or wear a mask due to Severe Mental Illness (SMI), Cognitive Impairment (CI), or other medical condition

- Locked SNFs and secured RCFEs: Ombudsman representative will need to determine if residents can be interviewed for a case investigation including gaining verbal consent if possible.
- Forensic locked SNFs where residents cannot be socially isolated, wear masks or social distance and the Ombudsman representative needs to interview the resident for a case investigation including gaining verbal consent if possible.
- A large RCFE where residents may or may not be able to wear masks and social distance. The Ombudsman representative needs to interview a resident for a case investigation and gain written consent.

Or a combination of residents who can and cannot or will not social distance and wear a mask.

## UNVACCINATED OMBUDSMAN REPRESENTATIVE PPE NEEDED and RISK MITIGATION

 N95 respirator (surgical N95 respirator), face shield, and gloves.

## NOTE:

- Refer to <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/topics/">https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/topics/</a>
   Respirators/disp part/n95list1.html
- O LTCOP Coordinators must ensure that Ombudsman representatives follow Fit testing procedures for NIOSH-approved N95 respirators. To find approved Fit testing providers contact your local County Health Agency, hospitals or fire departments or search for Fit testing services in your area. For more information visit Cal/OSHA at <a href="https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/">https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/</a> or OSHA at <a href="https://www.osha.gov/">https://www.osha.gov/</a>.
- If there are cough or other signs or symptoms of COVID-19, then wait to interview that resident until the symptoms have been resolved.

SCENARIO	PPE NEEDED and OMBUDSMAN REPRESENTATIVE RISK MITIGATION
The facility is designated COVID-19 positive. Local Public Health allows staff who are COVID-19 positive and do not have symptoms to work with COVID-19 positive residents, and/or the facility has COVID-19 positive and negative residents or staff.	<ul> <li>N95 respirator, face shield, and gloves.</li> <li>Limit time in the facility; be efficient.</li> <li>No cough or other COVID-19 symptoms by the resident.</li> <li>If there are cough or other signs or symptoms of COVID-19, then wait to interview that resident until the symptoms have been resolved.</li> </ul>
Subacute units:  Ombudsman representative observing conditions, not interacting with residents but interacting with staff, or	Unvaccinated Ombudsman representatives may not enter subacute facilities or subacute sections of SNFs.
Ombudsman representative interacting with residents to interview them on a case either with or without the use of a communication board, or	
Ombudsman representative interacting with residents to witness an AHCD.	