



September 24, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: Community Residential Care Facilities
Facilities for Chemically Dependent or Addicted Persons
Hospices
Hospitals
Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities
Nursing Homes
Renal Dialysis Facilities
Residential Treatment Facilities for Children and Adolescents

FROM: DHEC Healthcare Quality

SUBJECT: Isolation Barrier Requirements for COVID-19 Protection

The Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) requires that community residential care facilities, facilities for chemically dependent or addicted persons, hospices, hospitals, intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities, nursing homes, renal dialysis facilities, and residential treatment facilities for children and adolescents use approved flame-retardant materials in creating isolation barriers that comply with the South Carolina Fire Code. See S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-84, § 1601; S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-93, § 1601; S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-78, § 2102; S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-16, § 2200; S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-13, § 2000; S. C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-17, § 2100; S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-97, § 1601; and S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 61-103, § 1501.

As barriers are becoming more frequently used to prevent the spread of COVID-19, they are being created using common items, such as curtains and plastics. All materials used should be verified as being flame-retardant and fully compliant with applicable codes, regulation, and standards; including SC Fire Codes 803.1.2, 804, 807.2, and 807.3.

In recognition of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)'s 701 standards, materials labeled as being flame-retardant or list "ASTM E-84," "UL723," or "NFPA 701" on the product specification sheet are approved for use.

If your facility is utilizing non-rated materials in the creation of a barrier, then it must be immediately removed. If a facility has any questions regarding barriers and if the materials being used are approved by DHEC, then they should contact acc-healthreg@dhec.sc.gov.