

Robin Schofield
FOIA Coordinator
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
5601 Fishers Ln
Rockville, MD 20852
(via email: foia@niaid.nih.gov)

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear Coordinator Schofield:

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

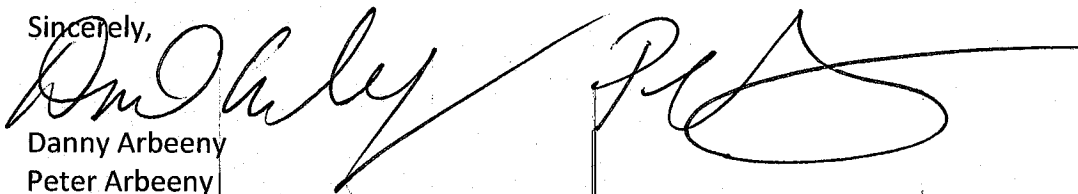
We request that a copy of the following documents [or documents containing the following information] be provided to me:

- Any and all correspondence from National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Anthony S. Fauci, M.D. with any New York State Government official or employee, from March 1, 2020 through April 1, 2020, regarding New York Governor Andrew Cuomo's ("Governor") March 25, 2020 nursing home advisory from the New York State Department of Health to Nursing Home Administrators, Directors of Nursing, and Hospital Discharge Planners, entitled "Advisory: Hospital Discharges and Admissions to Nursing Homes," a copy of which is enclosed.

In order to help to determine our status to assess fees, you should know that we are individuals seeking information for personal use and not for a commercial use. We are willing to pay reasonable fees for this request up to a maximum of \$2,000. If you estimate that the fees will exceed this limit, please inform us first.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is for Danny Arbeeney and the signature on the right is for Peter Arbeeney. Both signatures are written in a cursive, flowing style.

Danny Arbeeney
Peter Arbeeney

Enclosure



Department of Health

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.
Commissioner

SALLY DRESLIN, M.S., R.N.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

DATE: March 25, 2020
TO: Nursing Home Administrators, Directors of Nursing, and Hospital Discharge Planners
FROM: New York State Department of Health

Advisory: Hospital Discharges and Admissions to Nursing Homes

**Please distribute immediately to:
Nursing Home Administrators, Directors of Nursing, Directors of Social Work, Hospital Discharge Planners**

COVID-19 has been detected in multiple communities throughout New York State. There is an urgent need to expand hospital capacity in New York State to be able to meet the demand for patients with COVID-19 requiring acute care. As a result, this directive is being issued to clarify expectations for nursing homes (NHs) receiving residents returning from hospitalization and for NHs accepting new admissions.

Hospital discharge planning staff and NHs should carefully review this guidance with all staff directly involved in resident admission, transfer, and discharges.

During this global health emergency, all NHs must comply with the expedited receipt of residents returning from hospitals to NHs. Residents are deemed appropriate for return to a NH upon a determination by the hospital physician or designee that the resident is medically stable for return.

Hospital discharge planners **must** confirm to the NH, by telephone, that the resident is medically stable for discharge. Comprehensive discharge instructions must be provided by the hospital prior to the transport of a resident to the NH.

No resident shall be denied re-admission or admission to the NH solely based on a confirmed or suspected diagnosis of COVID-19. NHs are prohibited from requiring a hospitalized resident who is determined medically stable to be tested for COVID-19 prior to admission or readmission.

Information for healthcare providers on COVID-19 is readily available on the New York State Department of Health public website at <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/information-healthcare-providers>. As always, standard precautions must be maintained, and environmental cleaning made a priority, during this public health emergency.

Critical personal protective equipment (PPE) needs should be immediately communicated to your local Office of Emergency Management, with the appropriate information provided at the time of request. Requests **MUST** include:

- o Type and quantity of PPE by size;
- o Point of contact at the requesting facility or system;
- o Delivery location;
- o Date request is needed to be filled by; AND
- o Record of pending orders.

Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation in responding to COVID-19. General questions or comments about this advisory can be sent to covidnursinghomeinfo@health.ny.gov.