

## Holiday FAQ's – Frequently Asked Questions - Long-Term Care Facilities

Issued: November 9, 2020 Updated: November 11, 2020

### **Can families bring tamales, biscochitos, and other food items to their loved ones?**

Yes, please see the guidance below:

- The risk of getting COVID-19 from food you cook yourself or from handling and consuming food from restaurants and takeout or drive-thru meals is thought to be very low. Currently, there is no evidence that food is associated with spreading the virus that causes COVID-19.
- However, it is important to safely handle and continue to cook foods to their recommended cooking temperatures to prevent foodborne illness.
- Perform routine hand hygiene.

### **What about plants and flowers?**

Yes. There is no evidence that COVID-19 can infect plants. Please encourage families to use no contact delivery, disinfection of outer vase/container – no additional holding time required, and perform routine hand hygiene.

### **Can our residents receive gifts?**

Yes. For residents receiving wrapped gifts it is appropriate for staff to perform hand hygiene before and after delivering gifts directly to residents. Residents should also be encouraged to perform hand hygiene before opening gifts.

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- Staff, residents, and families must practice proper hand hygiene when handling any delivered items.
    - Facilities should consider designated drop-off times for gifts and other items.
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[CDC FOOD AND COVID-19 GUIDANCE](#)

[CDC HAND HYGIENE GUIDANCE](#)