The hotel industry is going above and beyond to assure travelers and employees that hotels will be cleaner and safer than ever before. AHLA’s Safe Stay, industry-wide standards enhanced standard of health and safety protocols, have been reviewed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and leading health experts.

HOUSEKEEPING FREQUENCY DURING A SAFE STAY

“Guestrooms occupied by the same customer over multiple days should not be cleaned daily, unless requested.”

Following the advice of federal, state and local health agencies and experts, Safe Stay aims to limit human contact and increase social distancing to reduce the risk of exposure for employees and guests while the threat of this unprecedented public health remains. Our CDC-reviewed guidelines are grounded in the idea of limiting human contact and reducing risk for exposure. That includes limiting housekeeping during a stay and encouraging non-contact check-in and room service.

STATE & LOCAL HEALTH AGENCIES AGREE ON LIMITING HOUSEKEEPING DURING STAYS

“Hotels should employ strategies to reduce interactions between housekeeping staff and guests, such as not offering daily housekeeping for stays under 7 days.”

District of Columbia (D.C.) Department of Health

“Daily housekeeping should only be done upon request in order to limit staff time in guest rooms.”

Chicago Dept. of Health

“Housekeeping staff are not recommended to enter or service the room during a stay unless requested by the guest.”

St. Louis Dept. of Health

“Housekeeping should not be performed in occupied rooms, unless requested by extended-stay guests.”

Wisconsin Dept. of Health

“Housekeeping during a guest’s stay should only be provided upon request.”

New Mexico Dept. of Health

“Hotels should discontinue or decrease housekeeping services to prevent transmission between rooms during guest stays.”

Utah Dept. of Health

“Direct contact services, including housekeeping, should be limited to the greatest extent possible.”

Vermont Dept. of Health

MANDATING DAILY ROOM HOUSEKEEPING ENDANGERS GUESTS AND EMPLOYEES

“I agree with limiting the amount of times that housekeeper comes into the room. You have no way of monitoring whether they’re wearing their mask correctly. It’s better to just not have that person touching surfaces or potentially spreading any virus.” (Travel Weekly, 8/19/20)

Dr. Ravina Kullar, Infectious diseases specialist and epidemiologist

“There is no need to increase the number of times a hotel employee must enter and clean a guestroom when it is not changing occupants, risking exposure to the coronavirus should it be present.”

Len Welsh, former chief of California’s Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA), 6/20

“Mandating that staff enter guest rooms daily does nothing to protect the guest from COVID and only increases the risk to both the staff entering the room (in the event the guest is infected) and the guest (in the event the staff member is infected).”

Global BioRisk Advisory Council (Division of ISSA), 6/20