

Severity and Scope Determination

Guidance on Scope Levels

Scope has three levels: ***isolated; pattern; and widespread***. The scope levels are defined accordingly:

I. Scope is ***isolated*** when one or a very limited number of residents are affected and/or one or a very limited number of staff are involved, and/or the situation has occurred only occasionally or in a very limited number of locations.

II. Scope is a ***pattern*** when more than a very limited number of residents are affected, and/or more than a very limited number of staff are involved, and/or the situation has occurred in several locations, and/or the same resident(s) have been affected by repeated occurrences of the same deficient practice. The effect of the deficient practice is not found to be pervasive throughout the facility.

3. Scope is ***widespread*** when the problems causing the deficiencies are pervasive in the facility and/or represent systemic failure that affected or has the potential to affect a large portion or all of the facility’s residents. Widespread scope refers to the entire facility population, not a subset of residents or one unit of a facility. In addition, widespread scope may be identified if a systemic failure in the facility (e.g., failure to maintain food at safe temperatures) would be likely to affect a large number of residents and is, therefore, pervasive in the facility.

Severity and Scope Grid

<i>Enforcement Grid</i>		Scope of the Deficiency		
		<i>Isolated</i>	<i>Pattern</i>	<i>Widespread</i>
Severity of the Deficiency	<i>Immediate jeopardy</i> to resident health or safety	J	K	L
	<i>Actual harm</i> that is not immediate jeopardy	G	H	I
	<i>No actual harm</i> with potential for more than minimal harm that is not immediate jeopardy	D	E	F
	<i>No actual harm</i> with potential for minimal harm	A	B	C