

November 4, 2024 Weekly Clinical Update

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM CDC:

Beginning on January 1, 2025, nursing homes will be required to electronically report information about COVID-19, influenza, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). This will replace the current nursing home COVID-19 reporting requirements to NHSN that are set to sunset on December 31, 2024.

CMS notes they are requiring the minimal necessary data for weekly data reporting to NHSN to maintain a level of situational awareness that will protect resident health and safety, and CDC has combined the required reporting fields into one simplified reporting form in NHSN. CDC will also provide enhanced user support, an improved helpdesk ticket response system, and training tailored to the LTC community to support the use of NHSN.

The new data elements for which NHSN reporting will be required on January 1, 2025, include:

- Facility census
- Resident vaccination status for COVID-19, influenza, and RSV
- Confirmed resident cases of COVID-19, influenza, and RSV (overall and by vaccination status)
- Hospitalized residents with confirmed cases of COVID-19, influenza, and RSV (overall and by vaccination status).

The final rule also allows the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in the event of a future acute respiratory illness public health emergency (PHE), to require submission of additional related data elements or an increased frequency of reporting. CMS also withdrew the portion of the proposed rule that would have allowed the Secretary to increase data reporting if a significant *threat* for a PHE for an acute infectious illness exists.

This rule is scheduled to be published on November 7, 2024, and can be found [here](#).