



## February, 2022 Reflections

So much has happened since last month then it feels like what happened was changed, then changed again, and again. And we still don't have guidance from KDADS on how specific Kansas will survey the mandate. But the good news is that we are seeing significant reductions in cases of COVID-19. It feels almost "too good to be true" and I'm sure it's hard to believe until we really see changes. But there is HOPE, and without hope we have nothing. Hang on a little longer.

For our Kansas facilities, you have an opportunity to receive further testing funding through the KDHE-funded contract laboratory, but time is of the essence. KDADS has identified many facilities that have not yet registered with Battelle. KDADS encourages all facilities that are interested in Battelle's free surveillance testing support to begin the registration process as soon as possible and complete the steps to have the facility fully onboarded no later than March 15, 2022. Go to: <https://testedandprotected.org/#/> or contact [slaughterm@testedandprotected.org](mailto:slaughterm@testedandprotected.org) to learn more or to start the onboarding process with Battelle.

CMS has provided some additional information about NHSN reporting. "With the CMS interim final rule remaining in place, NHSN will continue to auto-populate the MRPs through September 2022. **Therefore, facilities do not need to complete MRPs to report COVID-19 vaccination data for residents and healthcare personnel for reporting weeks ending April 3, 2022, through September 25, 2022.** This means no action is required for facilities regarding the MRPs during this timeframe, and the plans should remain checked each month."

NHSN is planning to make enhancements beginning February 2022. A "Therapeutics Pathway" will require facilities to list Therapeutics by medication type including: Evusheld (AstraZeneca); Paxlovid (Pfizer) and Molnupiravir (Merck).

Weekly NHSN COVID-19 Vaccination Data Module will be revised by removing the question on individuals eligible for an additional dose or booster dose (currently question 4 on the data collection) since most individuals are now eligible for a booster dose. Additionally, "Previously, CDC instructed facilities not to include vendors as healthcare personnel. After receiving stakeholder feedback, CDC has updated COVID-19 vaccination data reporting guidance to include vendors under the "other contract personnel" category if they are regularly scheduled to work in the facility, regardless of clinical responsibility or patient contact. Facilities should now begin reporting data on vendors from this point forward. If possible, facilities should revise data reported for prior weeks in accordance with this new guidance."

I am getting lots of questions about what "additional precautions" could include for those that are unvaccinated, have only had 1 of a 2-shot series at the time of hire, or who have been approved for an exemption. I know this is a repeat for some of you, but here are some suggestions and some examples:

- Reassignment to a remote position (work from home)
- Reassignment to a non-clinical area (not that possible for clinical staff)
- Increased testing: an example might include: test upon entrance or provide documentation of a negative COVID-19 test within the previous 24 hours since most facilities are already testing on a weekly or twice weekly basis
- Person must wear a fit-tested N95 or greater respirator at all times while in facility and minimize contact with staff and residents **AND**
- Person must wear a face shield at all times while in facility
- Person must distance at least 6 feet from residents, staff members and visitors unless unable, then must wear full PPE
- Reassignment of unvaccinated person to residents with up-to-date vaccination status only
- Assign unvaccinated person to residents who are not considered immunocompromised
- Provide any/all services in well-ventilated area, including with an open window when weather permits and use of exhaust fan or table fan when possible. (Fan speeds will be set below "high" setting at all times)

- Restrict unvaccinated person from common areas used by residents or other staff members who are without an up-to-date vaccination status

You know how CMS kind of drops new information on us? Well, in the Visitation FAQs that were put out, they included improving air quality in facilities. I am going to include the specific information they provided. I would suggest you review the information and teach your residents, staff and include in your visitor information that you provide:

- *Adding ultraviolet germicidal irradiation (UVGI) to the heating ventilation and air conditioning system (HVAC).*
- *To avoid having multiple groups of people or multiple visitors for a resident within small rooms or spaces, designate special visitation areas that are outdoors when practical or in designated large-volume spaces with open windows and/or enhanced ventilation.*
- *Adding portable room air cleaners with high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA, H-13 or -14) filters to communal areas.*
- *Ensure proper maintenance of HVAC system to ensure maximum outdoor air intake. For additional information on air cleaning, disinfecting, and UVGI, see CDC's Ventilation FAQs or the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers site on Filtration and Disinfection.*

*14. What are ways a facility can improve and or manage air flow during visitation?*

*A: A facility may consider implementing the following:*

- *The use of a portable fan placed close to an open window could enable ventilation. A portable fan facing towards the window (i.e. facing outside) serves to pull the room and exhaust air to the outside; a fan facing towards the interior of the room (i.e. facing inside) serves to pull in the outdoor air and push it inside the room. Direct the fan discharge towards an unoccupied corner and wall spaces or up above the occupied zone.*
- *Activate resident restroom exhaust fans whenever visitors are present.*
- *Consider opening windows, even slightly, if practical and will not introduce other hazards.*
- *The use of ceiling fans at low velocity and potentially in the reverse-flow direction (so that air is pulled up toward the ceiling), especially when windows are closed.*
- *Avoid the use of the high-speed settings for any fan.*

*For additional information on improving air quality, optimizing air flow and use of barriers, see the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) site on Ventilation in Buildings.*

I know that most of this information is repeated, but in these days of bombardment of information and changes, it never hurts to have reminders.

**National FY2022**  
**Citation Frequency Report**

National Tag #	Tag Description	# Citations	% Providers Cited	% Surveys Cited
<b>Totals represent the # of providers and surveys that meet the selection criteria specified above.</b>		Active Providers=15259		Total Number of Surveys=23539
<a href="#">F0884</a>	Reporting - National Health Safety Network	3,941	13.2%	16.7%
<a href="#">F0880</a>	Infection Prevention & Control	1,663	8.9%	7.1%
<a href="#">F0689</a>	Free of Accident Hazards/Supervision/Devices	1,064	6.0%	4.5%
<a href="#">F0812</a>	Food Procurement, Store/Prepare/Serve Sanitary	850	5.2%	3.6%
<a href="#">F0684</a>	Quality of Care	841	4.8%	3.6%
<a href="#">F0677</a>	ADL Care Provided for Dependent Residents	637	3.6%	2.7%
<a href="#">F0761</a>	Label/Store Drugs and Biologicals	626	3.8%	2.7%
<a href="#">F0656</a>	Develop/Implement Comprehensive Care Plan	594	3.6%	2.5%
<a href="#">F0686</a>	Treatment/Svcs to Prevent/Heal Pressure Ulcer	535	3.1%	2.3%
<a href="#">F0609</a>	Reporting of Alleged Violations	441	2.5%	1.9%

The only change is that F812 and F684 traded places.

**Kansas FY2022-Standard**  
**Citation Frequency Report**

State Tag #	Tag Description	# Citations	% Providers Cited	% Surveys Cited
<b>Totals represent the # of providers and surveys that meet the selection criteria specified above.</b>		Kansas Active Providers=322		Total Number of Surveys=38
<a href="#">F0756</a>	Drug Regimen Review, Report Irregular, Act On	16	5.0%	42.1%
<a href="#">F0812</a>	Food Procurement, Store/Prepare/Serve Sanitary	16	5.0%	42.1%
<a href="#">F0657</a>	Care Plan Timing and Revision	13	4.0%	34.2%
<a href="#">F0689</a>	Free of Accident Hazards/Supervision/Devices	13	4.0%	34.2%
<a href="#">F0757</a>	Drug Regimen is Free from Unnecessary Drugs	12	3.7%	31.6%
<a href="#">F0880</a>	Infection Prevention & Control	12	3.7%	31.6%
<a href="#">F0758</a>	Free from Unnec Psychotropic Meds/PRN Use	10	3.1%	26.3%
<a href="#">F0677</a>	ADL Care Provided for Dependent Residents	9	2.8%	23.7%
<a href="#">F0761</a>	Label/Store Drugs and Biologicals	8	2.5%	21.1%
<a href="#">F0550</a>	Resident Rights/Exercise of Rights	5	1.6%	13.2%

**Kansas FY2022-Complaint**  
**Citation Frequency Report**

State Tag #	Tag Description	# Citations	% Providers Cited	% Surveys Cited
<b>Totals represent the # of providers and surveys that meet the selection criteria specified above.</b>		Kansas Active Providers=322		Total Number of Surveys=258
<a href="#">F0689</a>	Free of Accident Hazards/Supervision/Devices	27	8.1%	10.5%
<a href="#">F0880</a>	Infection Prevention & Control	12	3.7%	4.7%
<a href="#">F0812</a>	Food Procurement, Store/Prepare/Serve Sanitary	9	2.8%	3.5%
<a href="#">F0677</a>	ADL Care Provided for Dependent Residents	8	2.5%	3.1%
<a href="#">F0609</a>	Reporting of Alleged Violations	8	2.5%	3.1%
<a href="#">F0757</a>	Drug Regimen is Free from Unnecessary Drugs	6	1.9%	2.3%
<a href="#">F0756</a>	Drug Regimen Review, Report Irregular, Act On	6	1.9%	2.3%
<a href="#">F0755</a>	Pharmacy Svcs/Procedures/Pharmacist/Records	6	1.9%	2.3%
<a href="#">F0584</a>	Safe/Clean/Comfortable/Homelike Environment	6	1.9%	2.3%
<a href="#">F0657</a>	Care Plan Timing and Revision	5	1.6%	1.9%

**Missouri FY2022-Standard**  
**Citation Frequency Report**

State	Tag Description	# Citations	% Providers Cited	% Surveys Cited
Tag #				
Totals represent the # of providers and surveys that meet the selection criteria specified above.		Missouri Active Providers=516		Total Number of Surveys=35
<a href="#">F0880</a>	Infection Prevention & Control	18	3.5%	51.4%
<a href="#">F0812</a>	Food Procurement, Store/Prepare/Serve Sanitary	15	2.9%	42.9%
<a href="#">F0658</a>	Services Provided Meet Professional Standards	15	2.9%	42.9%
<a href="#">F0656</a>	Develop/Implement Comprehensive Care Plan	14	2.7%	40.0%
<a href="#">F0623</a>	Notice Requirements Before Transfer/Discharge	13	2.5%	37.1%
<a href="#">F0657</a>	Care Plan Timing and Revision	12	2.3%	34.3%
<a href="#">F0689</a>	Free of Accident Hazards/Supervision/Devices	12	2.3%	34.3%
<a href="#">F0677</a>	ADL Care Provided for Dependent Residents	11	2.1%	31.4%
<a href="#">F0761</a>	Label/Store Drugs and Biologicals	11	2.1%	31.4%
<a href="#">F0550</a>	Resident Rights/Exercise of Rights	10	1.9%	28.6%

**Missouri FY2022-Complaint**

**Citation Frequency Report**

State	Tag Description	# Citations	% Providers Cited	% Surveys Cited
Tag #				
Totals represent the # of providers and surveys that meet the selection criteria specified above.		Missouri Active Providers=516		Total Number of Surveys=186
<a href="#">F0686</a>	Treatment/Svcs to Prevent/Heal Pressure Ulcer	2	0.4%	1.1%
<a href="#">F0677</a>	ADL Care Provided for Dependent Residents	1	0.2%	0.5%
<a href="#">F0886</a>	COVID-19 Testing-Residents & Staff	1	0.2%	0.5%
<a href="#">F0689</a>	Free of Accident Hazards/Supervision/Devices	1	0.2%	0.5%
<a href="#">F0880</a>	Infection Prevention & Control	1	0.2%	0.5%
<a href="#">F0610</a>	Investigate/Prevent/Correct Alleged Violation	1	0.2%	0.5%
<a href="#">F0761</a>	Label/Store Drugs and Biologicals	1	0.2%	0.5%
<a href="#">F0692</a>	Nutrition/Hydration Status Maintenance	1	0.2%	0.5%
<a href="#">F0732</a>	Posted Nurse Staffing Information	1	0.2%	0.5%
<a href="#">F0684</a>	Quality of Care	1	0.2%	0.5%
<a href="#">F0558</a>	Reasonable Accommodations Needs/Preferences	1	0.2%	0.5%
<a href="#">F0885</a>	Reporting-Residents,Representatives&Families	1	0.2%	0.5%
<a href="#">F0727</a>	RN 8 Hrs/7 days/Wk, Full Time DON	1	0.2%	0.5%
<a href="#">F0561</a>	Self-Determination	1	0.2%	0.5%
<a href="#">F0658</a>	Services Provided Meet Professional Standards	1	0.2%	0.5%

**Nebraska FY2022-Standard**  
Citation Frequency Report

State	Tag Description	# Citations	% Providers Cited	% Surveys Cited
Tag #				
<b>Totals represent the # of providers and surveys that meet the selection criteria specified above.</b>		Nebraska Active Providers=195	Total Number of Surveys=39	
<a href="#">F0880</a>	Infection Prevention & Control	22	11.3%	56.4%
<a href="#">F0812</a>	Food Procurement, Store/Prepare/Serve Sanitary	18	9.2%	46.2%
<a href="#">F0761</a>	Label/Store Drugs and Biologicals	13	6.7%	33.3%
<a href="#">F0689</a>	Free of Accident Hazards/Supervision/Devices	12	6.2%	30.8%
<a href="#">F0758</a>	Free from Unnec Psychotropic Meds/PRN Use	9	4.6%	23.1%
<a href="#">F0695</a>	Respiratory/Tracheostomy Care and Suctioning	9	4.6%	23.1%
<a href="#">F0692</a>	Nutrition/Hydration Status Maintenance	8	4.1%	20.5%
<a href="#">F0684</a>	Quality of Care	8	4.1%	20.5%
<a href="#">F0584</a>	Safe/Clean/Comfortable/Homelike Environment	8	4.1%	20.5%
<a href="#">F0759</a>	Free of Medication Error Rts 5 Prcnt or More	7	3.6%	17.9%

**Nebraska FY2022-Complaint**  
Citation Frequency Report

State	Tag Description	# Citations	% Providers Cited	% Surveys Cited
Tag #				
<b>Totals represent the # of providers and surveys that meet the selection criteria specified above.</b>		Nebraska Active Providers=195	Total Number of Surveys=24	
<a href="#">F0580</a>	Notify of Changes (Injury/Dedline/Room, etc.)	3	1.5%	12.5%
<a href="#">F0695</a>	Respiratory/Tracheostomy Care and Suctioning	2	1.0%	8.3%
<a href="#">F0584</a>	Safe/Clean/Comfortable/Homelike Environment	2	1.0%	8.3%
<a href="#">F0677</a>	ADL Care Provided for Dependent Residents	1	0.5%	4.2%
<a href="#">F0657</a>	Care Plan Timing and Revision	1	0.5%	4.2%
<a href="#">F0726</a>	Competent Nursing Staff	1	0.5%	4.2%
<a href="#">F0644</a>	Coordination of PASARR and Assessments	1	0.5%	4.2%
<a href="#">F0886</a>	COVID-19 Testing-Residents & Staff	1	0.5%	4.2%
<a href="#">F0811</a>	Feeding Asst/Training/Supervision/Resident	1	0.5%	4.2%
<a href="#">F0812</a>	Food Procurement, Store/Prepare/Serve Sanitary	1	0.5%	4.2%

## Overdue Recertification Surveys Report (16 months)

### Overdue Recertification Surveys Report

Region	Number of Late Surveys	% of Active Providers
<a href="#">(I) Boston</a>	402	47.3%
<a href="#">(II) New York</a>	502	51.7%
<a href="#">(III) Philadelphia</a>	483	35.0%
<a href="#">(IV) Atlanta</a>	1,309	48.5%
<a href="#">(V) Chicago</a>	1,411	42.4%
<a href="#">(VI) Dallas</a>	698	33.8%
<a href="#">(VII) Kansas City</a>	646	44.2%
<a href="#">Iowa</a>	151	35.0%
<a href="#">Kansas</a>	91	28.4%
<a href="#">Missouri</a>	359	69.8%
<a href="#">Nebraska</a>	45	23.1%
<a href="#">(VIII) Denver</a>	217	35.5%
<a href="#">(IX) San Francisco</a>	925	64.6%
<a href="#">(X) Seattle</a>	344	80.0%
<a href="#">National Total</a>	6,937	45.6%

## Deficiency Count Report

### Deficiency Count Report

Region	Deficiencies by Scope & Severity											
	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	Total
<a href="#">(I) Boston</a>	28	11	602	214	224	34	1	0	6	0	0	1,120
<a href="#">(II) New York</a>	15	4	443	100	340	10	0	0	3	2	6	923
<a href="#">(III) Philadelphia</a>	31	62	997	436	304	26	0	0	2	4	0	1,862
<a href="#">(IV) Atlanta</a>	27	15	1,322	384	600	44	4	0	72	24	6	2,498
<a href="#">(V) Chicago</a>	36	112	3,665	1,057	1,437	289	5	3	89	23	31	6,747
<a href="#">(VI) Dallas</a>	20	19	1,073	934	707	23	0	0	37	25	3	2,841
<a href="#">(VII) Kansas City</a>	14	34	1,084	561	690	52	0	0	31	13	5	2,484
<a href="#">Iowa</a>	12	11	470	190	219	27	0	0	13	8	3	953
<a href="#">Kansas</a>	0	4	231	66	161	10	0	0	12	1	1	486
<a href="#">Missouri</a>	2	17	213	220	227	6	0	0	5	4	1	695
<a href="#">Nebraska</a>	0	2	170	85	83	9	0	0	1	0	0	350
<a href="#">(VIII) Denver</a>	2	4	386	264	343	85	9	0	2	1	9	1,105
<a href="#">(IX) San Francisco</a>	62	10	2,031	738	734	44	0	0	4	9	7	3,639
<a href="#">(X) Seattle</a>	4	7	418	223	151	31	2	1	1	4	1	843
<a href="#">National Total</a>	239	278	12,021	4,911	5,530	638	21	4	247	105	68	24,062

As always, if I can help you in any way, please feel free to contact me. There is HOPE in the air!

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