

## **New FAQs – November 25, 2020**

1. *Why are PACE medical assistants excluded from getting tested for COVID-19?*

### **From the COVID-19 Response Team:**

The initial approach of routine surveillance testing at PACE sites has been focused on the PACE staff who are most closely in contact with participants regularly attending the PACE day centers and who are most at risk of exposing participants. Those positions assigned to work with participants on the PACE day center floor, such as CNAs and other day center staff, have been evaluated to be most frequently in close contact. The MAs and other clinical staff, including providers—while they do have contact with participants—are in less frequent contact with participants compared to staff attending to participants regularly attending the day center. The ID dept. and PACE medical leadership are regularly reviewing new health official guidelines to evaluate whether any changes need to be made to the surveillance testing approach.

2. *If employees are traveling out of the country by car or plane, do we need to get tested before coming back to work?*

### **From the COVID-19 Response Team:**

If staff are planning to travel out of the state or the country, they should contact Employee Health immediately to discuss their return to work plan so all expectations are set prior to travel.