

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 12:18 PM

Good afternoon, everyone! Thank you for joining the call today. For anyone calling in, please ensure your phones and computers are on mute. You may post any questions or comments you have in the chat box

from Tena Chaivre to everyone: 12:28 PM

We are wondering if there will be any relaxation on the mandatory COVID-19 vitals and assessments of our long term residents. (especially the ones who are vaccinated).

from mlavin to everyone: 12:30 PM

State TAT team visited our facility this week. They INSISTED that all observation rooms MUST be in the same unit. Although this is preferred it is still ok for any private room in the facility to be used as an observation room, correct?

from Vicki Decker to everyone: 12:30 PM

When can we stop the daily covid screening for staff and residents?

from nwhite to everyone: 12:30 PM

The recent disclosure of the mishandling of the J&J vaccine is pretty upsetting.

from Juliet Fountain to everyone: 12:32 PM

Is Hospice still restricted to only allowing in the nurses for Hospice or can Hospice aides come in now?

from Amanda Wagner to everyone: 12:34 PM

The TAT team was in this week and expected our hand sanitizers throughout the building to have an EPA number. Would this have an EPA number, considering it is for skin and not surface disinfecting?

from pgoff to everyone: 12:35 PM

Are TAT teams still visiting AL facilities now that AL has been separated from all the NH orders?

from Tameka Browne to everyone: 12:37 PM

@Amanda Wagner hand sanitizers would not have an EPA number since it's FDA regulated.  
<https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/why-arent-hand-sanitizers-listed-list-n>

from Jill Brooks to everyone: 12:40 PM

We are currently scheduling visits for our resident's families and are current

from Henri carlton to everyone: 12:41 PM

NHSN data does not indicate roll over from CRISP as of this week. Are you continuing to work on this process for roll over? Currently facilities are trying to enter the data to prevent deficiencies from NHSN.

from Annie Nganfack to everyone: 12:43 PM

The TAT team visited our facility on Tuesday and brought to our attention that only an MD or an NP can sign off on fit testing medical clearance forms (including the non-complex). Is this information accurate?

from AlcantarP to everyone: 12:43 PM

Budweiseer is offering a gift certificate for free beer if you upload a pic with your vaccine card.

from Jill Brooks to everyone: 12:43 PM

We are currently scheduling visits for family members and are looking at open visitation. Can you give any suggestions or guidance.

from lisa stone to everyone: 12:44 PM

thoughts on in person meetings with family members - i.s Family Council

from lisa stone to everyone: 12:45 PM

When will open visitation be permitted -

from Juliet Fountain to everyone: 12:45 PM

Is there any point that studies are going to be done on who has antibodies from native virus? Why are native antibodies not counted towards herd immunity?

from Jamie Rubin to everyone: 12:47 PM

Link to the COVID-19 Vaccine Storage and Handling video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6c3I2zBpiRU>

from Melissa to everyone: 12:48 PM

It's getting more difficult to convince staff to get the vaccine now that the case numbers are so low and we are not allowed to talk to unvaccinated staff about the vaccine. Unless the vaccine is required or rules change in the workplace for the fully vaccinated (i.e. no mask requirement), I feel like our hands are tied right now.

from Tashina McNeley to everyone: 12:48 PM

I agree with Melissa

from Jill Brooks to everyone: 12:50 PM

Anyone providing open visitation at this time?

from Hope Nevins to everyone: 12:54 PM

Are new admissions included in the staff count for fully vaccinated residents? Can we include our rehab vendors that are contractors in the staff count for fully vaccinated staff .

from wes street to everyone: 12:54 PM

When will families be able to have a meal with the residents in the dining room?

from Barndt to everyone: 12:55 PM

Are we only reporting to CRISP on Wednesdays or daily? If weekly, would our resident census be all residents who were in the facility at least one day during the previous week or the census for that day only?

from Hope Nevins to everyone: 12:55 PM

is there any update on fully vaccinated residents not wearing masks in th healthcare setting in common spaces?

from Bill Dickey, NHA to everyone: 12:57 PM

Are we reporting to CRISP daily or weekly? OR are there two separate reports that need to occur?

from Amanda Wagner to everyone: 12:57 PM

Can an RN assist a staff member w/ the FIT test questionnaire, under the oversight of an MD, NP, or PA?

from 615 721 183 to everyone: 12:58 PM

Please add me to the weekly call, JLeap@autumnhc.net

from Bret Stine to everyone: 12:58 PM

Is CRISP going to make the deadline to transmit vaccination data to NHSN?

from 615 721 183 to everyone: 12:59 PM

I need CRISP access badly

from Tameka Browne to everyone: 12:59 PM

For fit testing- a liscensed health care professional can perform the medical questionnaire or initial medical examination that obtains the same info as the questionnaire can be delegated to a nurse under a liscensed medical provider.

from maureen Nwandu to everyone: 12:59 PM

please add MNwandu@peakhealthcare.com

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 1:01 PM

If you want to add someone to the distrubtion list, please email MDH.IPCOVID@maryland.gov

from Melissa to everyone: 1:01 PM

I understand the importance of screening staff prior to entering the facility, but will we always need to have an in-person lengthy screening with a temperature check for each staff who enters? Could this be done remotely or individually at some point? Currently MDH is requiring in-person.

from Tameka Browne to everyone: 1:02 PM

Fit testing- Physician, NP or other provider liscensed to diagnose and treat is required for follow up medical evaluation if employees screen positive.

from Darlene Marshal to everyone: 1:02 PM

Can you share the story that Kevin is sharing - cite the location of this story so that we can share it

from BALenehan to everyone: 1:04 PM

Sounds like CRISP is only being checked on Wednesdays. Can we stop the daily updates? Or at least on weekends? We basically haven't had a day/morning off in over a year because of this.

from Michelle Mahn to everyone: 1:04 PM

pls write that again . . . thanks

from Darlene Marshal to everyone: 1:04 PM

Thank!

from Michelle Mahn to everyone: 1:04 PM

agreed, you got to lug your laptop all around town every weekend . . . crazy

from rking to everyone: 1:05 PM

Our fit test kit has us all putting the hood over our head to see if we can smell with and without a mask. I don't think this is a good idea for us all to be sharing this bag over our head. Can we fit test without the hood?

from Darlene Marshal to everyone: 1:05 PM

What do you mean by open visitations?

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 1:05 PM

Email MDH.IPCOVID@maryland.gov for the directions give DHMH permission to upload data in NHSN

from CHarrington to everyone: 1:06 PM

outdoor - socially distant -- family and resident event -- is it ok to have if all are screened and each are socially distant and sanitizer used -- for musical evening

from CASSIE to everyone: 1:06 PM

You posted a slide several weeks ago that said the only time a NP MD or PA has to sign the fit test was when the screened positive with issues. I am confused.

from Maria Darby to everyone: 1:07 PM

You can't

from Melissa to everyone: 1:07 PM

MDH does not allow us to speak to unvaccinated staff

from mainb (privately): 1:07 PM

What is the point of "daily" CRISP reporting? It seems if we are trying to lessen the burden a bit that would be a great start.

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 1:08 PM

from mainb (privately): 1:07 PM

What is the point of "daily" CRISP reporting? It seems if we are trying to lessen the burden a bit that would be a great start.

from kim\_kaisner to everyone: 1:08 PM

We are REQUIRED to talk to staff about the vaccine, why would someone think we shouldn't?

from lisa stone to everyone: 1:08 PM

We consistently educate all staff on the importance of vaccination and have been able to increase our numbers because of the education

from Maria Darby to everyone: 1:08 PM

You can't create a "hostile work environment" by focusing specifically on unvaccinated staff. You can discuss the benefits of vaccines more broadly.

from Darlene Marshal to everyone: 1:08 PM

Are children under the age of 18 permitted to visit?

from Juliet Fountain to everyone: 1:09 PM

So we do not have to report to CRISP daily anymore?

from Maria Darby to everyone: 1:09 PM

It is really important to continue to do vaccine education for staff overall, for the community and for families.

from April Chambers to everyone: 1:10 PM

Does employee testing need to be reported, sorry if I missed the answer if this was answered already,

from linda danjou to everyone: 1:10 PM

nhsn is due on Mondays but crisp is wednesday - the numbers will never match up

from Phyllis Eiring to everyone: 1:11 PM

what is the IPCOVID inbox email address please?

from FNRC to everyone: 1:11 PM

How prevalent was the breach of protocol that occurred with the TAT team conducted vaccine clinics involving the J&J vaccine in the earlier clinics that is now requiring follow up?

from Melissa to everyone: 1:11 PM

We have vaccine education posted everywhere and continue to encourage with facility-wide emails. We have 84% of our staff vaccinates. We were told by HR that we are not allowed to address staff individually or even ask them if they have gotten the vaccine.

from kim\_kaisner to everyone: 1:11 PM

Would you please post the username and password again for conferring rights to NHSN?

from CCRE to everyone: 1:11 PM

Employee vaccines that were administered at a facility are not consistently showing up in MyIR.net or CRISP. who should we contact?

from 615 721 183 to everyone: 1:12 PM

are goggles required off the admission unit? or just on admission unit

from Juliet Fountain to everyone: 1:12 PM

It forces us to put the vaccine information in daily

from Michelle Mahn to everyone: 1:12 PM

Thank you Becky for sharing our pain . . .

from jports to everyone: 1:13 PM

Can you edit the system for CRISP so that information entered from the previous day stays in the system until changed?

from linda danjou to everyone: 1:13 PM

we clean our hood between

from Lisa Bromfield to everyone: 1:13 PM

Quantitative fit testing does not require the hood but requires expensive testing equipment and software.

from 615 721 183 to everyone: 1:14 PM

Just because the particular mask we test with works, does not mean the next one will....it depends on how they adjust the nose etc.

from Hope Nevins to everyone: 1:14 PM

how do you define a large group?

from Emily Painter to everyone: 1:15 PM

So we have to do daily crisp reporting, weekly crisp upload for vaccine, AND weekly nhsn reporting?

from Melissa to everyone: 1:16 PM

At what point would you recommend that unvaccinated staff no longer need routine weekly testing?

from B to everyone: 1:16 PM

Is there a limit to the number people we can have in a gathering at one time? Such as a staff meeting, are we limited to 10 or 20, etc.? If so, is it different indoors vs outdoors?

from Hope Nevins to everyone: 1:17 PM

I report all POC results to CRISP. I report all positive results both POC and PCR to the state/local health department. Is this still the correct agencies to be reporting our result to?

from Katharine Taylor to everyone: 1:18 PM

Do facility Rapid testing machines need to be registered with the MDH?

from Patrina T to everyone: 1:18 PM

When bulk reporting POC via [crispdirect.org](https://crispdirect.org) when should you upload results? Daily? Weekly?

from Tashina McNeley to everyone: 1:19 PM

So you just said that goggles are required on Observation Units but earlier you said that we don't have to have observation units. If we have Observation patients in various places, do staff have to wear goggles everywhere or just in that room?

from 615 721 183 to everyone: 1:20 PM

understood

from Christopher Lofton (privately): 1:20 PM

I still do not have access for Bulk reporting POC via [crispdirect.org](https://crispdirect.org). Please assist.

from Jamie Rubin to everyone: 1:21 PM

@Tashina, yes eye protection is required before entering each room of a resident on TBP.

from Tena Chaivre to everyone: 1:21 PM

The recent J and J vaccine issue with the TAT team has distressed our staff and residents. We are being told we can no longer count them as vaccinated. a lot of them had reactions to the shot!

from Angie Keebaugh to everyone: 1:21 PM

Does anyone have a Policy for vaccine requirement as part of employment that they would like to share?

from BALenehan to everyone: 1:22 PM

Since CRISP is required daily, just want to remind everyone you can do it from your phone.

from maureen Nwandu to everyone: 1:22 PM

if you wear glasses, do you also need to wear another goggles?

from Tashina McNeley to everyone: 1:23 PM

When will we get official information about the mishandled J&J vaccine to give to families and staff?

from Vragasa to everyone: 1:24 PM

Can a fully vaccinated resident go off campus for more than 24 hours and doesn't need to self quarantine

from Bill Dickey, NHA to everyone: 1:24 PM

How do we give access to MDH to do the NHSN reporting?

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 1:25 PM

If you need the directions to give MDH access to NHSN reporting, email [mdh.ipcovid@maryland.gov](mailto:mdh.ipcovid@maryland.gov)

from Courtney Stewart to everyone: 1:26 PM

I am receiving push back from other IPs who are requiring our nursing home staff wear faceshields. I am trying to implement goggles for comfort reasons, they state the faceshields protect the mask? Could you help me understand this concept.

from Amanda to everyone: 1:26 PM

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-after-vaccination.html>