

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 12:17 PM

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

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 12:18 PM

Please take a few seconds to answer the polling questions.

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 12:26 PM

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

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 12:26 PM

Please take a few seconds to answer the polling questions.

from User to everyone: 12:33 PM

Since the vaccine mandate goes into effect today, we have several with medical and religious exemptions that are nurses and GNA's.....are they required to wear enhanced PPE while working such as gown, gloves, N95, eye protection?

from Patricia Mays to everyone: 12:34 PM

Has the State considered allowing the centers to designate specific testing times for visitors?

We are open to visiting at all hours however it is a challenge when families arrive at

from Patricia Mays to everyone: 12:34 PM

.....9 PM and are in need of a POC test

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 12:36 PM

Please take a few seconds to answer the polling questions.

from BM to everyone: 12:37 PM

Regarding question #4, basically no visitors test at home therefore get tested at the facility. I am hopeful we get additional test kits to compensate for visitor tests.

from jackie nave to everyone: 12:37 PM

in regards to the POC testing we have to provide to our visitors, we also have to input those results into CRISP, right?

from Cindy to everyone: 12:38 PM

Will you be sending extra testing supplies for the large amount of visitor tests we are now required to do??

from Jamie Rubin to everyone: 12:38 PM

PPE requirements are the same for all staff, regardless of vaccination status and should be chosen based on the risk level of the activity and/or population they are working with.

Well-fitting source control and eye protection for all direct care activities during times of high community transmission is the minimum expectation for staff working with the general population.

from andee to everyone: 12:38 PM

Becky can the trends of slides variants be posted in a way that goes back to the beginning March 2020 not June 2020?

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 12:40 PM

@andee the project for sequencing didn't start until June 2020 and therefore we don't have data before that

from Cody to everyone: 12:40 PM

My understanding was visitors are highly recommended to be tested 72 hours prior to their visit but if they refuse they have the right to do so and can come visit. Are we mandated to offer testing to visitors? - as of now we have been encouraging visitors to get tested externally within 72 hours of their visit and to share the results with us.

from Cindy to everyone: 12:40 PM

We have been using Binax testing supplies. This week received individually packaged (in boxes) Access Bio CareStart tests. Are there guidelines/directions/controls/logs, etc that we should be using? Or just a list of names and results? How do we get more than you are sending? Testing the whole house residents and employees as well as all visitors will put a strain on our inventory.

from User to everyone: 12:41 PM

What do you do if your medical director of your facility refused to be tested? He is vaccinated and boosted but not sure how to handle this?

from Juliet Fountain to everyone: 12:42 PM

Was it ever clarified if we do have to do daily vaccination reporting?

from Rachelle Ayers to everyone: 12:42 PM

POCs cannot be used on residents on routine outbreak testing.

to User (privately): 12:43 PM

For your question, you should reach out to your local health department. You can also send an email to [mdh.ipcovid@maryland.gov](mailto:mdh.ipcovid@maryland.gov)

from Jen to everyone: 12:43 PM

We received the Access Bio CareStart rapid tests? How do we report these in CRISP? This brand is not an option

from Deborah Graves - LBH to everyone: 12:43 PM

Clarifying that CRISP is staying active?

from User to everyone: 12:43 PM

How do we do the vaccine reporting on a daily basis? do we just go by who was in the building the previous 24 hours. Do you not realize how time consuming that is for us to figure out on a DAILY basis!

from jports to everyone: 12:43 PM

If you have a Directed POC for CRISP reporting, when does it end? Seems to be at the State's discretion with no ending date.

from BM to everyone: 12:44 PM

Have you considered making only the facilities in "outbreak" status report daily? The remainder to report weekly?

from John Bethea to everyone: 12:44 PM

Good Afternoon. The information in the PROPS portal has incorrect facility information for me. I send an email to the help box and never got a response.

from Rachelle Ayers to everyone: 12:44 PM

CareStart is not on facility CLIA

from Juliet Fountain to everyone: 12:45 PM

Does it retain data from day to day like CRISP did? If not, it is actually more work. Especially if daily vaccine reporting.

from BALenehan to everyone: 12:45 PM

There's no email confirmation for PROPS? How do we prove it's been done?

from Michele Buscher to everyone: 12:45 PM

Please clarify if we have to report HOME tests that the Guard distributed to CRISP, thanks!

from Marty Griffin to everyone: 12:46 PM

Email confirmation is in development and the target is to have it added before the 2/1 date

from BALenehan to everyone: 12:46 PM

Thanks Marty!

from Tena Chaivre to everyone: 12:46 PM

Does the PROPS portal want all staff to be contract and students in the total. Or just facility staff.

from BALenehan to everyone: 12:46 PM

Any idea if PROPS can be used on phones?

from BALenehan to everyone: 12:46 PM

And can PROPS be used outside the USA? CRISP Can't

from Rachel Karish to everyone: 12:47 PM

With staffing shortages across the board, is it realistic to expect nursing home staff to offer testing to visitors in addition to twice per week testing for staff? Smaller buildings might be more doable- we have 285 beds, 370 staff members to test (700+ per week), and 30-50 visitors per day.

from Mike Lavin to everyone: 12:47 PM

The National Guard also dropped off a large box of KN95s. Why were they given to us? I believe we are required to wear N95s.

from Stephanie Nestor to everyone: 12:47 PM

LHD's have been distributing these tests to the community no specifically to facilities as a means to provide equity for testing for the community.

from Juliet Fountain to everyone: 12:48 PM

Are we going to get more of the binax tests? The OTC tests are cumbersome and take more staff time to help administer the tests.

from Cindy to everyone: 12:49 PM

Also, our new tests are not options on the mandatory reporting forms. How do we report?

from Rachel Karish to everyone: 12:49 PM

Does it have to be twice per week? Also, can I report to NHSN as well/either or?

from andee to everyone: 12:49 PM

Are we subject to fines for PROPS as with CRISP?

from Kimberly Drake to everyone: 12:49 PM

Results still need to be reported within 24 hours, correct?

from Marty Griffin to everyone: 12:50 PM

Props is only optimized for windows/android tablet. we are working on making it mobile friendly

from Cindy to everyone: 12:50 PM

"POCs cannot be used on resident on routine outbreak testing".. Is this accurate?

from susjohns to everyone: 12:50 PM

Are visitors required to wear eye protection in addition to source control masking of the face?

from Emily Logan to everyone: 12:50 PM

So we have to do daily reporting to PROPs, POC bulk testing to CRISP, and weekly NHSN reporting? This is ridiculous.

from Brenda Rice to everyone: 12:50 PM

Do we need to submit POC test completed for visitors?

from Diana Wiggins to everyone: 12:50 PM

Are you saying we should be reporting visitor tests? If we don't submit bulk report it's because we are using PCR tests.

from Cindy to everyone: 12:51 PM

Also, can you please send out the info and template for bulk reporting?

from susjohns to everyone: 12:51 PM

Is a sample template for uploading POC testing available?

from Alex King to everyone: 12:51 PM

What are we to go by as far as exposure? For vaccinated but not boosted, and not vaccinated?

from Post Acute Care to everyone: 12:52 PM

Can you please share the email contact for the gentleman presenting the CRISP POC reporting overview and is it possible for you to send a sample template of the csv file

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 12:52 PM

A copy of the template will go out with the slides today

from Jaime DeMoss to everyone: 12:52 PM

If you are reporting POC test results through NHSN, are you still required to report them all to CRISP as well? Previously this was not the case as NHSN sends reports of these results to the state. I verified this with MDH previously.

from andee to everyone: 12:52 PM

Are they pregnant? Will it accept with unknown?

from MARLEY NECK to everyone: 12:52 PM

i dont have account as far as i know

from Jessica Hall to everyone: 12:52 PM

Eric, what is your email?

from hill.don (privately): 12:52 PM

Is reporting POC tests to Simple Report still acceptable?

from MARLEY NECK to everyone: 12:53 PM

kbhattarai@chs-corp.com

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 12:53 PM

Is reporting POC tests to Simple Report still acceptable?

from CHarrington to everyone: 12:53 PM

Are assisted livings still following residential guidance and where are the most updated guidance - AL we told to follow visitor guidance of nursing homes and if we are expected to test visitors where are POC available for AL

from Rachel Karish to everyone: 12:53 PM

Are ALF's expected to report?

from Tammy to everyone: 12:53 PM

Because of the amount of time it will now add to test visitors- we can require them to provide the test- we will not be required to test them i hope!

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 12:53 PM

If you need access to the slides/recording, please send an email to mdh.ipcovid@maryland.gov with the subject Slides/Contact list

from Post Acute Care to everyone: 12:53 PM

What is Eric's email and is there a training CRISP sandbox we can use for training purposes

from Fayette H&R to everyone: 12:53 PM

Based on Eric Shope's information, are we required to conduct COVID testing on visitors prior to visitation?

from Eric Shope to everyone: 12:54 PM

eric.shope@crisphealth.org

from Eric Shope to everyone: 12:55 PM

There is a CRISP YouTube channel that has helpful videos

from BM to everyone: 12:55 PM

Is a "warm" zone required when entering/exiting the COVID Unit?

from Aaron Schabes to everyone: 12:56 PM

Is SNF required to test visitors or if they don't have a test they can come in with mask and distance

from Cindy to everyone: 12:57 PM

Do you plan to send staff to help with this data entry??? It is absolutely A LOT OF INFORMATION we are reporting on everything everybody everyday.

from Michelle Mahn to everyone: 12:58 PM

so we have to ask for their DOB, etc?

from Bill Dickey, NHA to everyone: 12:58 PM

Is there a point in this data stockpiling that we are providing resident care?

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 12:59 PM

Please take a few seconds to answer the polling questions.

from Emily Logan to everyone: 12:59 PM

What's the point if visitors still have to wear PPE anyways and can come in regardless of testing?

from Bill Dickey, NHA to everyone: 1:00 PM

I think Emily is onto something

from Andee to everyone: 1:00 PM

Citing opportunities

from Tammy to everyone: 1:00 PM

Are we continuing to put new admissions on 14 day observation if unvaccinated?

from Wes Street to everyone: 1:00 PM

If PPE and trash for COVID residents do not need to go in red bags, do the rooms still have to be set up with isolation bags etc...?

from Daryl Hawkins to everyone: 1:02 PM

@Cindy and @Rachel Ayers- Per CMS QSO-20-38 POC testing can be used on residents during outbreak testing. For your reference, CDC also provides information about antigen testing in NH (including when to do confirmatory PCR tests)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/nursing-homes-antigen-testing.html>

from Bnataba to everyone: 1:03 PM

I work in a CCRC and all visitors come through the concierge's desks in IL. There's no where to test because nursing isn't on the first floor. Do you have any ideas regarding testing.

from Michelle Mahn to everyone: 1:03 PM

i have designated, we are small, my DON is now a high priced swabber!

from jackie nave to everyone: 1:03 PM

i thought CMS said we could not restrict visiting hours

from Mike Lavin to everyone: 1:04 PM

Is it sufficient to report POC results to NHSN instead of CRISP?

from Katherine Benkowski to everyone: 1:05 PM

How do you recommend addressing non-compliant visitors i.e. those who may indicate no symptoms but have symptoms. We do have posters, screening and educate and request masking, etc. but sometimes this is difficult. Any suggestions?

from Daryl Hawkins to everyone: 1:05 PM

@bnatntaba- Some facilities we have talked to had some great ideas- One included having visitors call when they arrive so that they can be tested, then visitors wait in car, and get called when results come back (to reduce crowding). Might have to consider a waiting area for visitors who cannot wait in car. Other facilities here might chime in with more ideas.

from Amanda W to everyone: 1:05 PM

We have a visitor self-swabbing station w/ staff supervision- does this need to be reported in CRISP?

from kim\_kaisner to everyone: 1:05 PM

Get a new medical director:)

from Karen Sroka to everyone: 1:06 PM

Medical director cannot come in then.

from Michelle Mahn to everyone: 1:06 PM

does anyone speak up on behalf of us, this is daunting and our staff think we are nut and the families just think it is a huge party that they can just walk in and be served.

from Tena Chaivre to everyone: 1:06 PM

So we submit POC on staff. We have not on residents. Because if they are positive we send for PCR confirmation..

from susan arcadia to everyone: 1:06 PM

tell him his contract is in jeopardy

from MARLEY NECK to everyone: 1:07 PM

so during outbreak resident not need to do PCR test?

from Cindy to everyone: 1:07 PM

We are finding now that we are testing visitors, we are getting a lot more visitors. Apparently for the free on demand testing.

from pleg396067 to everyone: 1:07 PM

The Nat Guard delivered CareStart COVID-19 home kits. What is the rate of false positive/negative?

from christa martin to everyone: 1:07 PM

can you clarify about the usage of KN(% vesus N95 masks. WE have received many KN95 masks

from Daryl Hawkins to everyone: 1:07 PM

@Marley Neck- Yes this is correct. For your reference, CDC also provides information about antigen testing in NH (including when to do confirmatory PCR tests)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/nursing-homes-antigen-testing.html>

from bucd70 to everyone: 1:08 PM

That is crazy too! Vaccination on the previous day ?????

from jennifer trowell to everyone: 1:08 PM

Did you just say PCR testing is NOT required for residents during a Covid outbreak?

from Tena Chaivre to everyone: 1:08 PM

We have not been reporting via CRISP POC on residents because we confirm positives with a PCR and MDH is notified.

from Juliet Fountain to everyone: 1:08 PM

Please don't make it on who was there the previous day, that would be awful

from Juliet Fountain to everyone: 1:08 PM

It's bad enough you want vaccination reporting DAILY!

from Tena Chaivre to everyone: 1:08 PM

We have not been obtaining all that personal information on visitors, and honestly we really do not have that kind of time?

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 1:09 PM

@Marley Neck it is highly recommended that residents are tested via PCR, but it is not required. For any symptomatic person who tested negative via POC, reflex to PCR and if still negative test for other respiratory illnesses

from Cindy to everyone: 1:09 PM

So if a visitor comes and needs a test, if I hand them the individually boxed test and they self administer, do I need to report it?

from User to everyone: 1:09 PM

Is a KN95 more effective than a surgical face mask?

from bucd70 to everyone: 1:09 PM

We have a swabbing station too-not sure how else you can really do it.

from jennifer fittery to everyone: 1:09 PM

can you share the email address for the mailings again

from Emily Logan to everyone: 1:09 PM

You're going to have a lot of noncompliance with weekend props reporting if unable to do on the phone...

from Alex King to everyone: 1:10 PM

Are N95s not required when testing?

from Marty Griffin to everyone: 1:10 PM

Vaccine reporting is cumulative totals on a daily basis

from Kimberly Drake to everyone: 1:10 PM

The KN95 we were provided were not medical grade, so I guess we'll be using those as surgical masks?

from Barry to everyone: 1:11 PM

CMS has said that if someone has an exemption, they are supposed to wear an N95. See Attachment A in QSO-22-07-ALL

from Tiffany Brown to everyone: 1:11 PM

What about N95 for DDA communities?? They are short on supply and in crisis capacity with their use.

from BALenehan to everyone: 1:11 PM

I'd recommend calling the centers and seeing if they need PPE. Some of us have plenty and would rather it go to places in need.

from Tiffany Brown to everyone: 1:11 PM

They will even take KN95s for their staff!

from gwen fox to everyone: 1:11 PM

so.... we hand visitors a test kit. Tell them to test themselves. They do. and we do not have to report, correct?

from Mike Lavin to everyone: 1:12 PM

I thought that SNFs were going to be sites for the public to pick up POC kits. Is that true? Where can I find where that is written?

from sherrill butler to everyone: 1:12 PM

is the seal test for N95 mask approved

from gwen fox to everyone: 1:12 PM

We have a very high % of visitors who tend to refuse... sad.

from Cindy to everyone: 1:12 PM

With all these different masks it poses yes another problem to meet requirements. . We are to fit test EACH staff with EACH brand . That takes a lot of time as well. This is a problem. Is there a way we can PLEASE at least receive the same masks each time? Staff and time are already overworked and overextended.

from Post Acute Care to everyone: 1:13 PM

Does the state have an PPE exchange platform for SNF's, where facilities can trade/exchange inventory?

from Amanda W to everyone: 1:13 PM

Not sure if most know this, but Abbott Binax test expiration dates were extended again- another 3 months, for a total of 15 month extension from Manufacturer date

from Rachel Karish to everyone: 1:13 PM

Are all results or just positive results required to be reported in 24 hours, again, with 700+ tests being done per week, this is a nearly impossible task for us

from Tammy to everyone: 1:14 PM

With all of this on top of everything else- What are you all doing about staffing and falling below the state PPD?? We struggle every day to meet the requirement-

from Michelle Mahn to everyone: 1:15 PM

which should we make priority, patient care or data entry of a negative test?? this is not reasonable, we are dying here, the staff is wiped out!! every day a new staff member comes up positive.

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 1:16 PM

All MDH directives for Nursing Homes and Healthcare Matters -

<https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/cdc-resources>

from Rachel Karish to everyone: 1:16 PM

ALF's don't have provider numbers to report through CRISP (point of care results)

from Mary Beth Waide to everyone: 1:16 PM



Where is the documentation for the Binax test expiration date extension? We have tried to find it from eric shope to everyone: 1:17 PM

Rachel, we can work out a reporting only relationship for ALF's

from Stephanie Nestor to everyone: 1:17 PM

I thought residents only had to be tested when there is an outbreak. Has that changed to routine testing of residents as well?

from gwen fox to everyone: 1:17 PM

Abbot's web site has the lot #'s and corresponding expiration dates

from Amanda W to everyone: 1:17 PM

Google Abbott exp dates and will find the info about 15 mths

from Tammy to everyone: 1:17 PM

Anyone know if we can count therapy staff in PPD?

from Christina Chiu to everyone: 1:18 PM

can contractors provide a home test done on their own for entry into a facility?

from Ryan Sachs to everyone: 1:19 PM

Is the number of test kits we receive based on our staff roster and tests entered into CRISP?

from User to everyone: 1:19 PM

so if you are doing testing, does your tests, PPD need to go in a red bag or just the regular trash?

from Elizabeth to everyone: 1:19 PM

Is the information regarding red bags etc being shared with the TAT teams? They wanted us to have infectious waste cans (red) by every room door on obs unit.

from andee to everyone: 1:20 PM

Police

from elena fedeles to everyone: 1:20 PM

If new admission is not vaccinated but had COVID in the last 90 day are we still putting that person in isolation for 14 days?

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 1:22 PM

If your questions are not answered during the call, please email those questions to [mdh.ipcovid@maryland.gov](mailto:mdh.ipcovid@maryland.gov).

from John Bethea to everyone: 1:22 PM

Do we need to track visitors who decline testing?

from Brenda Evans to everyone: 1:23 PM

Do we add visitor #'s with the staff #'s in the daily reporting of tests in CRISP?

from Patty to everyone: 1:23 PM

It's NOT FREE! We have to pay extra staff to manage this ridiculous plan! Come ON PE

from Patty to everyone: 1:23 PM

PEOPLE

from Shemeka Robinson Complete Care LaPlata to everyone: 1:25 PM

We had someone come in and say they were there to visit a patient. When they named the patient, that particular patient had been dead for years. They obviously just wanted the test. I hope we don't see a lot of this.

from Shemeka Robinson Complete Care LaPlata to everyone: 1:25 PM  
resident\*

from Patty Fritz to everyone: 1:26 PM

Who are the contacts for the congregate care team? I work with many DDA facilities and congregate living facilities

from gwen fox to everyone: 1:26 PM

Props weekend reporting... does the application work with cell phones?

from Mike Lavin to everyone: 1:27 PM

Are SNFs now sites for the public to pick up POC test kits? Where is that written?

from Bill Dickey, NHA to everyone: 1:28 PM

People wanting free tests is getting out of hand

from andee to everyone: 1:28 PM

We do not give written confirmation to avoid the we are free testing site

from Jen (privately): 1:29 PM

I agree we are becoming testing sites and is taking away from what we really need to do for our residents

from Michelle Mahn to everyone: 1:29 PM

We need help, it is not you but we are soooooooo stressed

from Daryl Hawkins to everyone: 1:29 PM

Regarding Biohazard bag use: Biohazard bags are required only if the PPE, when compressed, releases potentially infectious material. So even if testing, PPE that is not essentially heavily soiled with infectious material, does not need to be thrown away in biohazard bag.

from User to everyone: 1:30 PM

during an outbreak do we have to assess the residents three times a day or can it be daily? This is very time consuming

from Margaret to everyone: 1:30 PM

Please clarify on reporting: PROPS, CRISP AND HHSN.

from BM to everyone: 1:30 PM

Thank you for advocating for us as we feel we're circling the drain and no one is listening.

from Cindy to everyone: 1:30 PM

We can see it

from CASSIE to everyone: 1:31 PM

we can see it