

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 12:22 PM

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

from AFrazee to everyone: 12:27 PM

currently we are only testing unvaccinated staff. Since we are now seeing vaccinated people getting COVID-19, do you suggest we go back to tesing ALL our staff weekly?

from megan campbell to everyone: 12:29 PM

these calls are great / informative, and we appreciate the slide decks: what is the link to the latest guidance from MDOH for long term care facilities that represents changes or reinforces guidance that has been provided??

from lkemper to everyone: 12:34 PM

Health department here today and handed me directives for Assisted Licens to follow again- they could not tell me if these are new or if these are manadated to follow or just reccomendations at this time- please advise..

from Jamie Rubin to everyone: 12:34 PM

@Megan, thanks! The latest versions of guidance documents can be found here:
<https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/cdc-resources>

from megan campbell to everyone: 12:34 PM

Thansk!

from User to everyone: 12:38 PM

during an outbreak can we test weekly using POC (rapid) or do we have to use PCR?

from Michele Hauer to everyone: 12:39 PM

Are guidelines going to change to include testing vaccinated employees as well as unvaccinated regardless of outbreak status?

from kfields to everyone: 12:43 PM

Is weekly testing for a positivity rate over 5% and is that just for unvaccinated or vaccinated as well?

from andee to everyone: 12:46 PM

We know per the info packet for POC testing that they had reduced likelihood by 30% of identifying asymptotics before vaccine- do we know if there is any reduction in identifying positive Covid post vaccines??

from andee to everyone: 12:47 PM

Do we anticipate any change in current testing guidance if the facility HCWs are 100% vaccinated??

from Allison Ciborowski to everyone: 12:48 PM

<https://www.kevinmd.com/blog/2021/08/try-this-new-technique-when-talking-to-vaccine-skeptics.html>

from Wes Street to everyone: 12:51 PM

Does both positive and negative COVID results have to be reported to MDH or just the positive results?

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 12:53 PM

@Wes yes ALL COVID-19 results are reportable that includes positives, negatives, and indeterminate results

from User to everyone: 12:53 PM

If we report POC results in CRISP does that automatically report to MDH?

from andee to everyone: 12:53 PM

Is this the system the hospitals have been using for a few months ? I have seen their system for Crisp easier than ours in LTC?

from Wes Street to everyone: 12:54 PM

does this include Assisted Living as well?

from lthor876355 to everyone: 12:55 PM

Can you repeat. Could not hear you.

from Rachel Karish to everyone: 12:55 PM

do we need need to report PCR results since the lab we use already reports the results to covidlink?

from Monica Chawla to everyone: 12:55 PM

What are other hospitals doing regarding visitation for inpatients?

from Alcantarp to everyone: 12:56 PM

If we have to do reporting to MDH such as during an outbreak, do we have to list all residents tested? or just the positive tests? The Instructions are not very clear. Thank you.

from lthor876355 to everyone: 12:56 PM

If we report POC results in CRISP does that automatically report to MDH?

from karla baughman to everyone: 12:56 PM

If entered via NHSN will MDH capture the results?

from jdemos to everyone: 12:56 PM

Do we need to report PCR results if our lab is not in MD?

from Rachel Karish to everyone: 12:56 PM

who do we contact if we cannot upload to crisp? I have sent numerous tickets, no response. I eventually got the tab added, but still nothing there.

from Rachel Karish to everyone: 12:57 PM

NHSN is what i was told to use by Alexis Fowler at the state.

from User to everyone: 12:58 PM

Can you please clarify....if we report POC results in CRISP does that automatically report to MDH? I did not hear what you said when you answered earlier. Thank you!

from Alexis Fowler to everyone: 12:58 PM

Hi Rachel, yes NHSN is still an option for reporting POC results if CRISP is not working for your site.

from Alcantarp to everyone: 12:58 PM

HELP! If we have to do reporting to MDH such as during an outbreak, do we have to list all residents tested? or just the positive tests? The Instructions are not very clear. Thank you.

from Rachel Karish to everyone: 12:59 PM

they don't respond is the issue...

from Michelle Mahn to everyone: 12:59 PM

any penalty if we are late!?

from Tena Chaivre to everyone: 12:59 PM

do you have to do POC reporting to oth NHSN and CRISP

from Alcantarp to everyone: 12:59 PM

I understand but a line listing with individual information or just data?

from Courtney Veneziani to everyone: 1:01 PM

Since Bill left CRISP no one responds to the email for support!! Could we get a contact name and phone number?

from Donna Collier to everyone: 1:02 PM

Is this going to include assisted living facilities?

from Allison Ciborowski to everyone: 1:02 PM

eric.shope@crisphealth.org

from Kristy Lunquest to everyone: 1:02 PM

So reporting outbreaks to MDH is a separate process. I am not sure what they request in terms of linelists. This is just result reporting.

from Lisa Leppado to everyone: 1:03 PM

Privately owned assisted living facilities it is still optional for vaccinations correct?

from SCarson to everyone: 1:03 PM

these guidelines are for ONLY the facilities that REQUIRE the vaccine? Otherwise continue with normal monitoring?

from Diane Vernon to everyone: 1:05 PM

Can you please clarify if skilled nursing facilities are allowed to do tours prior to admission. We hear almost daily from families that they are allowed to tour other facilities, and don't understand why they can't tour ours. We did not think tours are allowed yet.

from mmell to everyone: 1:06 PM

our company made a policy only take residents with at least one dose of vaccine

from Diane Vernon to everyone: 1:06 PM

to clarify, this is in person tours. We do virtual tours

from Lisa Stone to everyone: 1:06 PM

we are seeing that hospitals are not testing for COVID

from Michelle Mahn to everyone: 1:06 PM

Thank you Diane!! we get the same!!! then they choose other places and we look like the bad guy

from Lisa Stone to everyone: 1:07 PM

we test upon admission

from SCarson to everyone: 1:07 PM

Do you report those test results if you are testing just because or for example they need a test for presurgery reasons?

from Donna Pusey to everyone: 1:07 PM

What is the time frame from the time a patient is Covid+ to when the SNF can admit (they are asking for 21 days) regardless of symptoms

from Juliet Fountain to everyone: 1:07 PM

How are we going to protect our residents if we can't control anything at the hospital or testing? The hospitals are allowing open visitation and many residents have been exposed greatly on that level. It is not fair to have so many restrictions on the facilities and none on the hospitals. Why are the rules at the hospital so open?

from Tena Chaivre to everyone: 1:08 PM

Do you all realize what a staffing and PPE crisis it puts on our facilities to have Observation and COVID units. We are stretched to the max

from hsavage1 to everyone: 1:09 PM

In order to discharge residents to make room for new admissions, other facilities (Independent living, group homes and assisted living) have required that the resident be fully vaccinated. Will this be changing to help empty SNFs for people who we cannot safely discharge to home or with home health?

from andee to everyone: 1:10 PM

Do we really not know we can increase our practices? We don't need permission? We are privately owned companies.

from apellicane1 to everyone: 1:11 PM

REGEN-COV slide seems to say vaccination was a contraindication to administration. Can you clarify if this is the case? I reached out to REGEN-COV and they said vaccination was not a contraindication...so long as it was anticipated the patient 'would not mount an appropriate immune response'. Basically the representative for REGEN-COV said if you had a vaccinated patient with mild COVID and was deemed a high risk individual per their guidelines...you COULD give REGEN-COV. Any clarification?

from CMercanti to everyone: 1:13 PM

Do we anticipate surveillance testing in the near future?

from Rachel Karish to everyone: 1:13 PM

confirming- does there need to be a wait period between flu/covid vaccines? I see on the CDC it says no, but just want to be certain

from Melissa to everyone: 1:14 PM

Do the n95 masks on the quarantine unit need to be fit tested? Would kn95s be an adequate substitute if COVID not suspected (i.e. asymptomatic with negative COVID test on admission)?

from Michelle Mahn to everyone: 1:14 PM

why did we get that memo from D.Shoemaker, we now have to double check everyday the work we send or they will fine us, this is simply silly and degrading to us health care professionals, i cannot believe they want us to take screenshots to prove we are doing our reporting timely!

from Melissa to everyone: 1:14 PM

We have not been successful in getting a fit testing machine. Any suggestions?

from John M Mangione to everyone: 1:14 PM

are you all involved with the TAT team. They come out when we have 1 every other weekend person come up positive and take up our time. We had already had a full round of negative tests. Maybe there should some criteria to meet that is more than 1 random positive before they come in and take up our time and resources.

from Christina Chiu to everyone: 1:15 PM

Can you discuss current guidance regarding the need to screen daily all patients regardless of vaccination status? (Screening practices, not actual testing)

from SJacobs to everyone: 1:17 PM

what is best practice for LOA's? especially if they are not vaccinated residents.

from dreiss to everyone: 1:18 PM

One questioon that wasent addressed yet, can we offer tours at the facility?

from mstewart to everyone: 1:18 PM

Tours in all settings-not allowed? Just clarifying this includes Assisted Livings

from mmell to everyone: 1:19 PM

i think the hospitals need to have a long term care perspective and we have to be the ones that are flexible

from Christopher Lofton to everyone: 1:19 PM

Visitation what is the status for LTC?

from Diane Vernon to everyone: 1:19 PM

Is there any reprocussions for the ones that wont follow the guidelines for tours. We do the right thing, and lose patients because of it. We will not stop following the guidelines, but it's not fair if there is no reprocussions for those that dont follow guidelines

from Diana Wiggins to everyone: 1:19 PM

We need a COVID-19 unit is no cases in house? We can create one if needed.

from Leslie Taylor to everyone: 1:20 PM

I read in the regulations recently that a patient can be amongst the regular milieu if they are newly admitted from acute care, so long as they have a private room and the correct PPE is being used for that patient. Is that correct?

from Juliet Fountain to everyone: 1:21 PM

Testing for COVID takes a very short period of time, it should not be an issue for the hospital.

from Suzanne Best to everyone: 1:21 PM

Did you just say we can give flu and COVID-19 vaccs at the same time?

from RaeAnn Butler to everyone: 1:22 PM

Can you repeat that flu and Covid vaccine can be given at the same time without a 2 week wait

from Diana McAndrew to everyone: 1:22 PM

For N95 masks, the Universal fit masks are acceptable correct?

from andee to everyone: 1:23 PM

Exactly Becky ! Thanks - good eye to guidance for an non LTC person you had to learn our regs fast - patient rights . - etc. TxS

from Melissa to everyone: 1:23 PM

What type of n95 masks are facilities using? Do they need to come in different sizes so they can be fit tested?

from lisa stone to everyone: 1:23 PM

- <https://www.grainger.com/product/3M-Fit-Testing-Kit-1CD80?searchQuery=1cd80&searchBar=true>

from Michelle Kornick to everyone: 1:24 PM

K95 MASKS DO NOT NEED TO BE FIT TESTED

from lisa stone to everyone: 1:24 PM

we purchase our fit testing through grainger -see websifte

from andee to everyone: 1:26 PM

You must FIT test N95 per OSHA

from Vicki to everyone: 1:26 PM

Where can we find the directive from CMS RE: tours?

from Courtney Veneziani to everyone: 1:27 PM

If anyone needs KN95s I have about 20 cases

from Leslie Taylor to everyone: 1:27 PM

Thank you very much. Great info.

from Christopher Lofton to everyone: 1:28 PM

Thank you for all you DO!!!