

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 and you may post any questions or comments in the chat box.

from Luis Navas-Migueloa to everyone: 12:20 PM

Hi. A few weeks ago you mentioned SNFs no longer needed to report to NHSN (I may have misunderstood). I have looked for the slides from that day and can't find them. Can you clarify that instruction, please?

from Luis Navas-Migueloa (privately): 12:21 PM

Hi, before you start, I have a quick question. A few weeks ago on the call, we were told that SNFs no longer needed to report to NHSN. I cannot find the slide from that day. Can you please clarify that?

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 12:22 PM

Hi, before you start, I have a quick question. A few weeks ago on the call, we were told that SNFs no longer needed to report to NHSN. I cannot find the slide from that day. Can you please clarify that?

from AFrazee to everyone: 12:23 PM

With the new directives, am I correct in thinking that starting March 1st we no longer need to test residents weekly unless we are in an outbreak?

from Ashley Jones, RN to everyone: 12:26 PM

A question before I forget to ask it! What is the testing requirement for AAA transportors or other contracted ambulance services that are not doing emergency transport? Who is responsible for testing them, the facility, their agency, or do they get tested in the community?

from jdemoss to everyone: 12:31 PM

A question: Does a fully vaccinated resident still need to be admitted into the observation unit?

from Cyndi Rogers to everyone: 12:31 PM

We have had multiple calls this week saying they'd heard adult daycare is opening soon

from mlavin to everyone: 12:32 PM

Can you confirm that as of 3/1 POC testing is sufficient if we are doing once-a-week testing of patients and staff? PCR is not required unless we have a positive POC test?

from Team Woodward Estates to everyone: 12:32 PM

i don't see anything on the screen

from vkamau to everyone: 12:33 PM

With the new update effective 3/1/2021 do the residents still need to be vaccinated weekly?

from lkemper to everyone: 12:33 PM

as Families are allowed back in to visit in rooms- what is the rules for residents who chose not to be vaccinated? Do we need to still monitor them because of this?

from mlavin to everyone: 12:33 PM

The most recent guidance doesn't specifically say that observation patients still can't have visitors as of 3/1 but that is still the case, correct?

from lkemper to everyone: 12:34 PM

When you say "companion" style room. cannot have visitors. What about room style that have there own bedroom doors that can be closed and they only share a bathroom

from mpruzansky (privately): 12:37 PM

Is NHSN reporting of POC test results currently mandatory?

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 12:38 PM

Is NHSN reporting of POC test results currently mandatory?

from Dr. Gil to everyone: 12:38 PM

For ancillary services providers coming into the SNF buildings, AFTER March 1st, do they still require showing a negative COVID test within 72 hrs of entrance?

from Leonilla Addeh to everyone: 12:38 PM

What is the current recommended isolation period for new admissions, post ER visit or hospital stay patients returning to LTC.

from mmell@kensingtonsl.com to everyone: 12:39 PM

what does this seroprevalence mean.... can you clarify ...did they have covid and didn't get sick?

from Robert Brown to everyone: 12:40 PM

For the new Visitation Guidelines, This is based on CMS data. Not MDH, Is the New Testing guidance based on CMS data or MDH Data? Because CMS is not as up to date and accurate as the MDH Is.

from Akiva Slepoy- Sterling Care so to everyone: 12:41 PM

When will we know if we will be offered a fourth vaccine clinic, and can we have first doses administered?

from wwadd to everyone: 12:43 PM

Can a LPN be trained to administer COVID 19 test in LTC?

from jports to everyone: 12:45 PM

Any chatter in regards to lowering observation days on a unit from 14 days or for a way to test out of observation? The state had a 10 day requirement for less than a week. It's a real hinderance if a LTC resident goes to the hospital for more than 24 hours.

from Jill to everyone: 12:48 PM

Visitors are given a POC test, should a PCR be required as well?

from cnoll to everyone: 12:49 PM

As long as the visitor and the resident are masked- can family members visiting take their resident on walks outside?

from andrea dwyer to everyone: 12:51 PM

Sorry if this was discussed. There is some "science" that indicates the B.1.1.7 might have a longer contagion/shedding period? Are there any thoughts on this? Also read that 67% of control of contagion and asymptomatic spread with Johnson & Johnson- which is of course what we hope for all vaccines. Because we are in simple terms "asymptomatic hunters". Do we have anything new on Pfzier on controlling contagion?

from M Darby to everyone: 12:51 PM

How will we be able to get new staff and new residents vaccinated?

from PMays to everyone: 12:55 PM

Can you be more specific about State Visitation Note "encourage to either test or ask Vistors to be tested prior to visit". CDC also says "encourage" e.g. 2-3 days. Families are asking use tests within 1 week to follow staff and patient practices effective 3/1/21.

from BALenehan to everyone: 12:55 PM

should nursing homes rapid test visitors? Children?

from asstdir to everyone: 12:56 PM

does the pcr testing need to be reported to crisp and nhsn after 3/1

from Bret Stine to everyone: 12:56 PM

Once you return to the state from travel and you have your 2nd negative test in 72 hours from arrival, do you still have to quarantine 14 days.

from Diane Vernon to everyone: 12:56 PM

We cant hear you

from andrea dwyer to everyone: 12:57 PM

Are the Medicaid transports folks testing?

from mmell@kensingtonsl.com to everyone: 12:58 PM

can someone share who they are ordering POC test kits from?

from Jennifer McGee to everyone: 12:58 PM

Our facility has a question regarding MDH 2021-02-11-02 - it does not specifically discuss return to Communal Dining and Activities (of course following all precautions - masking and social distancing), but I am assuming that it is approved for March 1st as well. If the residents can come out of their rooms and visit with families who are not required to be tested, I would have to guess, they are allowed to go to a dining room and eat meals and participate in activities - if we follow the same set of standards and precautions.

from wmacie to everyone: 1:01 PM

vendors need to be tested once a week after 3/1/21

from wmacie to everyone: 1:01 PM

You are going in and out

from Nancy to everyone: 1:02 PM

When out of outbreak, residents do not need to be tested weekly. What is the recommendations of how often to test the resident? And...this does not apply to staff, correct?

from cody christian to everyone: 1:02 PM

can we make exception for compassionate care visits for new move ins Assisted Living who are on observation?

from Peace Oke to everyone: 1:02 PM

If they have recieved rthe 2 doses of the vaccine, does the isolation period reduce from 14 - 7days.

from Julie Smith to everyone: 1:03 PM

Isn't it still testing monthly once out of outbreak for residents?

from Jamie Rubin to everyone: 1:03 PM

The 72 hour rule expires 2/28. As of March 1st, the Secretary's Directive and Order states, "All nursing homes are encouraged to either test or ask visitors to be tested for COVID-19 prior to the visit."

from Heather Wahl to everyone: 1:03 PM

For visitors coming in, we are going to be asking about test results or testing. We'll need to ask if they've tested positive in the last 90 days, should we be requiring proof if they say yes? How should we be handling it if they say they won't provide documentation and just want us to test?

from Peace Oke to everyone: 1:03 PM

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If the residnets have recieved 2 doses of the vaccine, does the isolation period reduce from 14 - 7days.

from jports to everyone: 1:04 PM

Are we still counting the day of admission as Day 0 in the 14 day observation period, with Day 16 technically being the official day to cohort residents?

from andrea dwyer (privately): 1:04 PM

thanks I will serach for it

from AJAY to everyone: 1:06 PM

Does the rapid test require a physician to sign off on

from Lisa Tull to everyone: 1:06 PM

f

from Emily Molloy to everyone: 1:06 PM

If a visitor is tested through POC and is positive would it open an outbreak for the facility?

from Nancy to everyone: 1:06 PM

Staff with positive POC but negative PCR, 10 days off or return to work?

from Lisa Tull to everyone: 1:07 PM

For those residents in a shared room can we set up a designated visitation area not in their room ie maybe a conference or community room?

from ruthie to everyone: 1:07 PM

I know vaccination status does not affect staff/resident testing plan/protocols. Familes are asking for us to change guidelines for them (ie not requiring a test, etc) if they are vaccinated. Any guidance for us on how to deal with vaccincated families?

from ruthie to everyone: 1:08 PM

vaccinated familes are saying MDH needs to address this. Any ideas

from Samaria Washington (privately): 1:09 PM

If someone goes to Pennsylvania for less than 24 hours what would they need to do to return to work?

from Kelly Stauffer to everyone: 1:09 PM

Wht is the rule on residents who were positive starting the covid vaccination? Do they have to wait?

from jdemoss to everyone: 1:10 PM

Residents no longer need to be tested weekly unless in Outbreak status, correct?

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 1:12 PM

If someone goes to Pennsylvania for less than 24 hours what would they need to do to return to work?

from Karyna Balbuena to everyone: 1:14 PM

If we test visitors and they test positive, will that put the facility in outbreak status?

from malam to everyone: 1:14 PM

The community rate is too high to be relying on the vaccine like that yet.

from Katharine Taylor to everyone: 1:15 PM

Asking for a CCRC. Have been reporting POC testing done on SNF unit to NHSN. We have POC machines in AL unit and Independent living units. How are we to report these POC test results?

from mhackett1 to everyone: 1:15 PM

Jamie, can you put the link in there that describes changes in testing in the SNF as of 3/1?

from Barry to everyone: 1:15 PM

Is outside visiting allowed even if the community is in outbreak.

from Wendy Utz (privately): 1:16 PM

Family flying in from out of the country to visit a dying resident who cannot quarantine. Are compassionate visits still considered allowed

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 1:16 PM

Family flying in from out of the country to visit a dying resident who cannot quarantine. Are compassionate visits still considered allowed

from Wendy Utz (privately): 1:17 PM

clarification...the out of country family do not have time to quarantine.

from Patricia Anderson to everyone: 1:18 PM

CDC guidance does not support the idea that Compassionate Care visits are a one shot deal. How do we hold them to that with the guidance expanding compassionate care to many different situations.

from Jamie Rubin to everyone: 1:19 PM

CMS testing rule QSO-20-38 can be found here: <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-38-nh.pdf>

from wes street to everyone: 1:20 PM

Hospice need to do a 14 day physical assessment. Is it ok for that to be through tele health

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 1:21 PM

clarification...the out of country family do not have time to quarantine.

from Jamie Rubin to everyone: 1:21 PM

2/11/21 AMENDED DIRECTIVE AND ORDER REGARDING NURSING HOME MATTERS can be found here: <https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/Documents/2021.02.11.02%20-%20MDH%20Order%20->

%20Amended%20Nursing%20Homes%20Matter%20Order%20%28Feb%202021%20Updates%20to%20Visitation%20Testing%20Other%29.pdf

from Ashley Jones, RN to everyone: 1:21 PM

Guidance on someone in their 90 day period that was PCR positive is having symptoms at day 77 like sore throat and headache. Retest recommended for variant?

from andrea dwyer (privately): 1:22 PM

do they have attached bldg off site?

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 1:22 PM

do they have attached bldg off site?

from asstdir to everyone: 1:22 PM

if they are dying it END OF LIFE visit - they should be able to visit

from jmarshall (privately): 1:22 PM

POC test them before coming in. and POC daily

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 1:23 PM

POC test them before coming in. and POC daily

from mmell@kensingtonsl.com to everyone: 1:24 PM

it depends on the hospice and if they can use notes faxed from the facility...

from asstdir to everyone: 1:25 PM

if the resident is dying it is not a compassionate visit it is an END OF LIFE visit

from AJAY to everyone: 1:25 PM

If the family member is given a Rapid test in an assisted living -- will we need a physician to sign off on it??

from mmell@kensingtonsl.com to everyone: 1:25 PM

we had a non out of country situation where resident dyingwe screened, used full isolation and let them say goodbye. resident died shortly after

from jmarshall to everyone: 1:25 PM

Hospice folks test weekly if they send Covid results they can come do the assessment in house

from mmell@kensingtonsl.com to everyone: 1:25 PM

sorry.... from a plane flying in to see resident

from nursdir to everyone: 1:26 PM

aren't weekly staff testing requirements changing to possibly once a month if the BCHD ++ rate is less than 5% per the CMS directive?

from Ashley Jones, RN to everyone: 1:26 PM

Should the person do return to work guidance for that person with symptoms at day 77

from Ashley Jones, RN to everyone: 1:28 PM

Oh and they had their first dose of the vaccine

from nursdir to everyone: 1:29 PM

SO is weekly testing once a week expected by the state of MARYLAND

from Ashley Jones, RN to everyone: 1:30 PM

Should the person do return to work guidance for that person with symptoms at day 77. Oh and they had their first dose of the vaccine

from AlcantarP to everyone: 1:30 PM

Can you please clarify residents in LTC not necessary for covid testing? if vaccinated and no outbreak?

from Nancy to everyone: 1:30 PM

If discussed prior, I am sorry. Is anyone seeing positives after the 2nd dose of vaccine?

from Dan Peters to everyone: 1:30 PM

Great job!!! Thanks for answering all our questions!

from Ann to everyone: 1:31 PM

thanks