

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 12:17 PM

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

from cody christian to everyone: 12:23 PM

Will hospice care workers need to be tested before entering?

What is the time frame a visitor has to test within prior to the visit? Is this prior to each visit?

If a resident is actively dying under immanent death, do those visitors need to be tested?

Does compassionate care and/or support person visitors also need to be tested?

from cody christian to everyone: 12:28 PM

Under this new quidance The Notice on 11/10 simply states: Marylanders should take all precautions to protect their loved ones at nursing homes and assisted living programs including staying home if sick and getting tested before they visit. Is that a mandate to test?

from Kathy Graning to everyone: 12:30 PM

Can a certified medicine aide perform a PCA swab if they are trained?

from Jennie Banner to everyone: 12:32 PM

There is not many rapid covid testing sites available that will take more time than if we get tested and hear from the testing site a few days later.

from John M Mangione to everyone: 12:32 PM

What do you know about reinfections? Is it happening alot?

from DReiss to everyone: 12:33 PM

I can not hear anything

from Lori Hamilton to everyone: 12:33 PM

what should a nursing home do if a family wants to take their loved one out for a holiday meal?

from Kevin D'Alesandro to everyone: 12:34 PM

Are we to require family members to bring negative COVID-19 test results prior to indoor visitation?

from Akiva Slepoy to everyone: 12:35 PM

if a facility is in outbreak status such that we cannot have indoor visitation, i understand we may still have outdoor visitation...but MUST we? would we be subject to the half million dollar penalty if we don't?

from wwadd to everyone: 12:35 PM

Now that our rates are 6-10% in Maryland and we are in one of the highest counties with cases, do we have to test our staff more than our standard weekly testing?

from wwadd to everyone: 12:35 PM

Are we required to mandatory test our resident's visitors? If so, is the point of care testing appropriate for this endeavor? And, who absorbs the cost for the testing?

from epainter1 to everyone: 12:36 PM

Will this increase in numbers impact LTC abilities to do indoor visitation, group activities, etc.?

from haizia amsler to everyone: 12:36 PM

Should we stop follow up visits ?

from mk to everyone: 12:36 PM

can we allow family member's to take their loved ones home for thanksgiving, we are not on OB, we are testing staff weekly, and is the patient allowed back in her room or do they go in OBS, they are only going for the day

from DReiss to everyone: 12:37 PM

With the current surge, why are we not shutting down visitations?? Wouldnt that be a basic measure to keep the virus out of our centers??

from Hope Nevins to everyone: 12:37 PM

Our current lab provider is taking closer to 72 hrs to get our covid

from pgoff to everyone: 12:37 PM

This ^

from Latoya Kess to everyone: 12:38 PM

Are families able to still come into the Assisted Living home to visit their loved ones?

from Ed Van Coutren to everyone: 12:38 PM

Healthcare workers were exempt from the previous travel order. Is that not the case now?

from Shanza Tassadaq to everyone: 12:40 PM

With the current shortage in PPE, how do you recommend we use PPE?

from pgoff to everyone: 12:40 PM

Is there someone we can email CLIA Waiver applications to rather than using snail mail?
from Ann Patterson to everyone: 12:42 PM

Can MDH see which lab we are using? Can anything be done to help with results?
from John M Mangione to everyone: 12:42 PM

What is being done to have the labs get to a 1 day turn around time? I would assume they could do it if they were not taking in more labs then they were able likely for the sake of making money
from andrea dwyer to everyone: 12:43 PM

Was anyone able to work with UMMS for their initial offering of testing at discount for all NHs?
from Hope Nevins to everyone: 12:44 PM

Since the lab is taking long time for turn around with our COVID results, is it recommended to do POC testing while we wait on PCR test results?

from Amie Denayer to everyone: 12:44 PM

Thank you for addressing the holiday question directly today.

from Layg to everyone: 12:44 PM

What is the CMS guidance for checking city/state data for positivity rate and maintaining a daily log that a facility is doing this daily. Please provide the easiest process and website for getting the information, especially if there is a short cut. Thanks

from Jennie to everyone: 12:46 PM

what is known of use of Protex in facility to clean area?

from PN (privately): 12:47 PM

Any guidance for staff requesting time off to travel out of the country ???for holidays

from Wagarac to everyone: 12:48 PM

Can Certified Medicine Aides (CMAs)and GNAs collect the swabs for POC and PCR tests?

from Layg to everyone: 12:49 PM

What do you define as significant. Thanks

from Hope Nevins to everyone: 12:50 PM

Window visits, please update us on this?

from mkraus to everyone: 12:50 PM

For visitor testing, is the visitor required to be tested for each internal visit. For example, If one visits Monday, Wednesday and Friday, is a new test required?

from Karyna Balbuena to everyone: 12:50 PM

Would you consider visitation in a contruction trailor or tent indoor or outdoor visitation?

from John M Mangione to everyone: 12:51 PM

What is positive result on rapid test but negative on PCR?

from lisa stone to everyone: 12:52 PM

what is the status of compassionate care visits with the increase in positivity rate - Baltimore County is 6 % as of today - should they stop?

from Diana Wiggins to everyone: 12:53 PM

Could we please get additional guidance on support persons for disabled residents.

from pgoff to everyone: 12:53 PM

Ideas for providing childcare? Not recommended to bring children in the facility

from mkraus to everyone: 12:54 PM

You mention weekly testing for visitors, the Executive Order does not define frequency. It's extremely important to standardize and provide clarity for a finite order/decision.

from Jeff Woolford to everyone: 12:55 PM

Yes!

from Jeff Woolford to everyone: 12:55 PM

Please unmute

from Jeff Woolford to everyone: 12:56 PM

Please unmute me if able

from Oludapo Raphael Eludoyin, LNHA to everyone: 12:56 PM

Will the COVID positive staff be using a separate entrance or the same as everyone?

from Annette to everyone: 12:56 PM

please can POC device be used to perform weekly staf testing?

from Karyna Balbuena to everyone: 12:57 PM

Do we have to require testing for visitors or is this just a recommendation?

from Kevin D'Alesandro to everyone: 12:58 PM

Should we cancel non-medically necessary services such as salon services at this time?

from shafer to everyone: 12:58 PM

What type of concerns is the TAT finding?

from Henry Cason to everyone: 12:58 PM

is it appropriate to require visitors to obtain tests outside of facility?

from ruthie to everyone: 12:59 PM

Does TAT come to Assisted Living or is this mainly for SNF?

from Elizabeth Grubb to everyone: 12:59 PM

Is it appropriate to use the POC (BD Veritor system) in individual resident rooms? Or is a single, designated room required for POC testing. (the use of the machine)

from Leslie Ray to everyone: 12:59 PM

of the facilities who failed thier CIC inspections - what were the main reasons for failing, so we can learn better practices....

from haizia amsler to everyone: 12:59 PM

Can we let patients go to follow up outside when we having an outbreak ?

from Jill to everyone: 1:00 PM

Will the national guard make visits along with the technical assistance teams?

from AlcantarP to everyone: 1:00 PM

Jeff, You mentioned we could contact you if we had any questions related to Infection Control

to Ann Patterson (privately): 1:00 PM

Please make sure you're phone is muted at all times

from AlcantarP to everyone: 1:00 PM

Jeff,

from cveneziani to everyone: 1:00 PM

Who do we call at our hospital? Certain department?

from Jodi to everyone: 1:01 PM

For clarification, a facility in an active outbreak, testing symptomatic or close contacts of a positive resident (roommate) with POC testing in between PCR testing and the poc is positive, the identified residents may be transported to the COVID positive unit without PCR confirmation, correct?

from Michele Young to everyone: 1:01 PM

Can we ask ambulances to provide us with covid negative testing?

from cperry to everyone: 1:01 PM

does testing for visitors need to be done for outsite visitation as well

from Martha Mbuthia to everyone: 1:01 PM

facility admitted COVID pos resident, resident insisted on getting tested on day 5 in facility, PCR test came back negative. Do we place the patient in PUI unit?

from andrea dwyer to everyone: 1:03 PM

As we all are

from AlcantarP to everyone: 1:03 PM

Jeff, You mentioned we could contact you if we had any questions related to infection control rounds with IC team. Can you please provide your contact info? Will we be getting a report provided with our results to ensure we are addressing all the areas for opportunity? If so, how can we get one for our facility IC team to review and verify all areas are addressed? Thank you.

from mkraus to everyone: 1:04 PM

The Governor wrote the Executive Orders re: updates on Visitation. He customarily recommends 72 hours prior to visit

from ROben (privately): 1:05 PM

Is the weekly testing solely for staff?

from wes street to everyone: 1:05 PM

Can you all clarify the visitor testing. Are you saying that outdoor and indoor visitation in designated areas must now be tested before visiting?

from B to everyone: 1:05 PM

Even if we have visitors get testing before coming, wouldn't they have to quarantine between the test date and the visitation date for the result to be effective? We don't know what exposure they may have had since the test.

from Phyllis Eiring to everyone: 1:06 PM

I was positive in April and am positive again this week. Only symptom right now is low grade fever that started this morning.

from haizia amsler to everyone: 1:07 PM

Outside of facility

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 1:07 PM

has there been any changes to communal dining recommendation as based on the CMS transmittal QSO-20-39H?

We currently have 2 active cases (1 staff member and 1 resident that is on our COVID positive unit)

Just wanted to make that we are all on the same page here.

from Chelsea and Erica to everyone: 1:07 PM

they mean follow up visits from doctors

from Allison Hart to everyone: 1:07 PM

Will there be any additional Strike Teams given the increasing cases?

from GLeiser to everyone: 1:08 PM

Does the TAT get tested weekly?

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 1:08 PM

Is the weekly testing solely for staff?

from Jeff Woolford to everyone: 1:09 PM

My contact Information: jeffrey.woolford1@maryland.gov

from Jeff Woolford to everyone: 1:10 PM

Please define what you mean by "Strike Teams"?

from Shanza Tassadaq to everyone: 1:10 PM

If we do not have an outbreak, but are in fear of the growing numbers, is stopping indoor visits but allowing outdoor visits appropriate?

from haizia amsler to everyone: 1:10 PM

Do we have to have a stetho scope Bp machine for each patient?

from Beatrice Collins to everyone: 1:11 PM

do all visitors that visit need to produse a covid negative test result before visiting

from Heather Saunders to everyone: 1:11 PM

paul.celli@maryland.gov

from Terry Prochnow to everyone: 1:12 PM

Per Maryland's Secretary of Health's Order (August 6, 2020), individuals already authorized to collect COVID-19 specimens for testing may continue to do so, as well as any individual licensed, registered, or certified by MDH or a MD health occupations board who has appropriate training to collect COVID-19 test

specimens. [https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/Documents/2020.08.06.01%20-%20MDH%20Order%20-%20Amended%20Various%20Health%20Care%20Matters%20\(Point%20of%20Care%20Testing\).pdf](https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/Documents/2020.08.06.01%20-%20MDH%20Order%20-%20Amended%20Various%20Health%20Care%20Matters%20(Point%20of%20Care%20Testing).pdf)

from Kevin Heffner to everyone: 1:13 PM

LifeSpan (in cooperation with HFAM and LeadingAge Maryland) has created an affordable PPE pipeline that includes capacity for stockpiling offsite for providers, as well as immediate/next day availability, even on certified KN95 masks, gowns, shields, and gloves. We have the PPE! Feel free to email apbeacon@lifespan-network.org.

from PN (privately): 1:15 PM

Can you please clarify that international travel returns DO NOT require home quarantine for 2 weeks ?

from Heather Saunders to everyone: 1:15 PM

Protex is listed on the EPA list n as a disinfectant effective against COVID-19. To look up disinfectants at your facility, use the EPA registration number on the bottle and look it up on the following website: <https://cfpub.epa.gov/giwiz/disinfectants/index.cfm>

from DReiss to everyone: 1:15 PM

Can the window be opened if a six foot distance is maintained?

from DReiss to everyone: 1:16 PM

(window visit)

from tiffanybrown to everyone: 1:17 PM

1. Are facilities still able to register for the COVID vaccine program, if so how? 2. The travel advisory is confusing, should people get tested AND quarantine or quarantine UNITL results are received and be released once the results are negative?

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 1:21 PM

Can you please clarify that international travel returns DO NOT require home quarantine for 2 weeks ?

from Traci LaValle to everyone: 1:21 PM

For person who asked who to reach out to at the hospital--if you don't already have a partnership relationship with a hospital, reach out now to get that started. If you don't have a contact, you can call the person you would call for a patient transfer. If you need additional help with a contact, email me, Traci La Valle at tlavalle@mhaonline.org.

from Hope Nevins to everyone: 1:22 PM

who do we email to validate that our information is on the CIC list?

from ncasanas to everyone: 1:27 PM

EMS have been testing residents when coming into the facility, especially if resident codes. However, after numerous calls they will not provide us with the results. They say call MDH. MDH say they don't results. Call back to EMS, they still will not provide result. Who can be contacted to push that envelope? We do need to know if we had a positive resident in the facility.

from andrea dwyer (privately): 1:28 PM

Last time the converntion center was stood in March/April- many agency staff were held on the sideline for use at the convention center- this created a short fall in potential agency staff availability to NHs with contract previously to Covid in place- is this going to be stood up again- as this virtually negates agency contract value.

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 1:28 PM

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from andrea dwyer (privately): 1:30 PM

opps txs..that was meant for all- my bad

from ncasanas to everyone: 1:31 PM

to you earlier response, individualized stethoscopes and BP cuffs is being listed on TAT reports as something that needs to be done.

from Akiva Slepoy to everyone: 1:32 PM

Are we still advised to use contactless thermometers? they seem to be far less acurate

from krdah to everyone: 1:32 PM

How will be notified about the answers on vistiation?

from rking to everyone: 1:32 PM

LabCorp and CIAN are both using dry tubes now

from GLeiser to everyone: 1:32 PM

Does the TAT get tested weekly?

from Shanza Tassadaq to everyone: 1:35 PM

^yes, every thursday

from DReiss to everyone: 1:35 PM

If one has antibodies and/or in the immunity time frame, does the 14 day quarantine still apply?

from MDH Epidemiology to everyone: 1:36 PM

mdh.ipcovid@maryland.gov

from Rachelle Ayers to everyone: 1:37 PM

WWho should we email if TAT recomendations differ from this call?

from GLeiser to everyone: 1:38 PM

Do surveyors get tested weekly?