



**Indiana**  
Department  
of  
**Health**

# Long Term Care NEWSLETTER

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## CMS Information

- **QSO-20-41-ALL** - Guidance related to the Emergency Preparedness Testing Exercise Requirements- Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

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***Emergency Preparedness Testing Exemption and Guidance*** - CMS regulations for emergency preparedness require specific testing exercises be conducted to validate the facility's emergency program. During or after an actual emergency, the regulations allow for an exemption to the testing requirements based on real world actions taken by providers and suppliers.

CMS defines the testing exercises required under the emergency preparedness regulations in two categories. Specifically, 1) full-scale, functional and individual-facility based exercises as the "required" exercises; and, 2) mock disaster drills, table-top exercises or workshops, as the "exercises of choice", which could also include the full-scale functional and individual-facility based exercises.

This worksheet presents guidance for surveyors, as well as providers and suppliers, with relevant scenarios on meeting the testing requirements in light of many of the response activities associated with the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE).

Complete Information & Worksheet: [Guidance related to the Emergency Preparedness Testing Exercise Requirements – Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)