



Indiana State
Department of Health

LONG TERM CARE NEWSLETTER

ISDH Long Term Care Newsletter
Issue 2020-55
August 7, 2020

Today's Issue:

- **Long Term Care (LTC) Facility Employee COVID-19 Testing Initiative – August 2020**
- **Mandatory Surveyor COVID-19 Testing**
- **MDS Training for 2020**

LTC Facility Employee COVID-19 Testing Initiative – August 2020

The ISDH in partnership with Probari, Inc. is sponsoring a statewide LTC Facility Employee COVID-19 Testing Initiative. Probari will provide communication, support and results reporting for this testing initiative. Facilities should expect a phone call from a Probari nurse. The Probari Team will provide the following:

1. Outreach calls to confirm dates and provide information
2. Phone & email support throughout the program testing period
3. Results reporting

LTC Facility Staff COVID-19 Testing Initiative – August 2020 specific information:

- Program dates: 08/12/2020 through 09/10/2020
- ALL skilled nursing facility / nursing facility (SNF/NF) staff will be tested, including contractors working in the facility
- No charge to the facilities
- NO ONSITE TESTING – All facilities will perform specimen collection with provided test kits that will be delivered by ISDH
- Specimens will be obtained from anterior nares not nasopharyngeal site
- Specimens will be collected by ISDH and the testing will be completed by partner labs throughout the state

[LTC Facility Employee COVID-19 Testing Initiative – August 2020 Information Sheet](#)

Contact Information: Probari Outreach Team - outreach@probarisystems.com or 317-804-4102

Mandatory Surveyor COVID-19 Testing

The ISDH Division of Long Term Care is engaged in the great endeavor of suppressing the spread of the highly contagious COVID-19 virus. We do not want to spread the infection to others, whether residents or staff in facilities or our own family and close contacts. To that end, each surveyor who has either performed survey activity in a facility or will be doing so, must be tested no later than close of business on August 31.

Given the current status of COVID-19, it is likely that continued testing will be needed in order to ensure we are being proactive in preventing any additional spread. And as always, continued use of masks and public distancing should be consistently practiced. Mask Up Indiana!!!

ISDH Policy: [Fit for Duty Policy for ISDH Infection Preventionists and Surveyors](#)

MDS Update 2020

The MDS Update 2020 Conference Calls will be conducted on:

- **Wednesday, September 9, 2020**
- 2:00PM - 3:00PM EST
- Registration deadline is September 7, 2020

- **Wednesday, September 23, 2020**
- 2:00PM - 3:00PM EST
- Registration deadline is September 21, 2020

To register for either conference call, contact Barbara Wheeler, RN, ISDH MDS Coordinator, via email at bwheeler@isdh.in.gov.