



Indiana
Department
of
Health

Long-term Care **NEWSLETTER**

LTC Newsletter 2021-40
August 13, 2021

LTC Update:

- **COVID-19 LTC Facility Infection Control Guidance SOP—Updated 08/11/2021**
- **Expanding Outbreak Testing & Sequencing Process—Update**
- **NHSN COVID-19 Vaccine Reporting & Data Error Alerts**

COVID-19 LTC Facility Infection Control Guidance SOP—Updated 08/11/2021

Updated information included in document:

- Due to the increase of Delta variant in our state:
- All persons in LTC facilities must wear well-fitting facemask as all times.
- All personnel (HCP) must ask residents to mask during care.
- Eye protection guidance is unchanged from previous 7/21/21 update.
- All activities within the community and facility must follow the 3 core principles of infection control by all persons wearing a well-fitted facemask when indoors, social distancing and frequent hand hygiene.
- Fully vaccinated HCP and fully vaccinated residents may choose to unmask outdoors in small gatherings.

Complete document: [COVID-19 LTC Facility Infection Control Guidance Standard Operating Procedure](#)

Updated: [LTC Toolkit](#)

Expanding Outbreak Testing & Sequencing Process—Update

Due to the increase of COVID-19 cases in Indiana, we are expanding outbreak testing and sequencing process to include weekends. The weekend process will be same as on weekdays:

- IDOH will contact you and get the line list for testing
- The Indiana National Guard will bring you the test kits the next day and pick up specimens the same day
- The lab will run PCR results and report back to the contact provided on the line list.

Please refer to the [Long-term Care Newsletter Issue 2021-38](#) published previously on 8/6/2021.

Thank you for the feedback you have provided on how we can make the process more efficient. We are currently reviewing your suggestions and analyzing how we can improve.

NHSN COVID-19 Vaccine Reporting & Data Error Alerts

On June 14, 2021, CMS mandated COVID-19 vaccine data for residents and staff to be reported into the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) COVID-19 module. To avoid financial penalty this information should be reported once a week. See attached document for details:

[NHSN COVID-19 Vaccine Reporting & Data Error Alerts](#)

Questions or issues reporting please contact Melissa Meador at 317-439-8772 or mmeador1@isdh.in.gov.