

NC Department of Health and Human Services

COVID-19 Updates to Nursing Homes: Testing, Reporting and Visitation

Office Hours, 10:00-11:00

October 8, 2020

Revised Office Hours Overview

- Goal is to establish resource for nursing homes to access nursing home-specific updates on DHHS COVID Activities.
- Today's Topics:
 - Updates and clarifications
 - Q&A
 - COVID-19 Testing: Nursing Home Reporting Portal: Staff Roster

Updates and Reminders

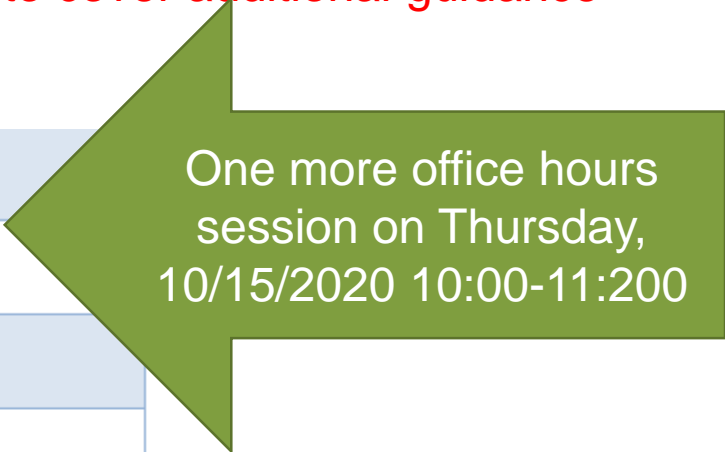
Updates this Week

- NC DHHS Interim Guidance for Long-term Healthcare Facility Antigen Test Reporting [posted](#).
- NC DHHS Spreadsheet for LTFC Lab results [posted](#).
- Long-term Care Guidance collected [here](#).

Reminders this Week

Today is last of scheduled office hours. **We will be extending one more week to cover additional guidance about Staff Roster Template and other financial reporting updates.**

Monday, 10/12/2020	Reporting Period 5 (under SO No. 4) Begins Testing Weeks: 10/12/2020-10/18/2020 and 10/19/2020-10/25/2020
Monday, 10/19/2020	Due Date: Reporting Period 4 Testing Activity
Monday, 10/26/2020	Reporting Period 6 (under SO No.4) Begins Testing Weeks: 10/26/2020-11/1/2020 and 11/2/2020-11/8/2020
Monday, 11/2/2020	Due Date: Reporting Period 5 Testing Activity
Monday, 11/9/2020	Reporting Period 7 (under SO No. 4) Begins Testing Weeks: 11/9/2020-11/15/2020 and 11/16/2020-11/22/2020
Monday, 11/16/2020	Due Date: Reporting Period 6 Testing Activity
Additional reporting periods may be established depending on status of Secretarial Order No.4	
Monday, 11/30/2020	Due Date: Reporting Period 7 Testing Activity



One more office hours session on Thursday, 10/15/2020 10:00-11:200

Aligning Federal and State Testing Requirements

Outbreak Duration and Testing under Secretarial Order No. 4

OUTBREAK

No New Cases
after

14
Days

No New Cases
after

28
Days

- Triggers testing of staff and residents “every three to seven days”*

- Can go back to surveillance testing, following federal Community COVID-19 Activity Level*

- Will be removed from NC DHHS Congregate Care Outbreak List

*Please see CMS QSO-20-38-NH Transmittal

COVID-19 Testing: Nursing Home Reporting

Updates on Portal Use and Reporting Activity under Secretarial Order No. 4

THANK YOU!

- For Reporting Period 3 submissions.
- For fast responses to our follow up questions.
- For asking questions and giving feedback that help us improve the process.
- For managing the unprecedented enormity of COVID.

Update: Once Submitted, Where Do I Go?

The screenshot shows a web interface for ticket management. At the top, there is a search bar and a breadcrumb trail: Home > Ticket Form. Below this, the main content area is titled "Financial... - Abernethy Laurels". It features a "Send" button and a "Close Case" button. A red circle is drawn around the "Close Case" button. To the left of the main content, there is a green arrow pointing towards the "Close Case" button with the text: "Finished? Another week to log? Go Home." Below the main content, there is a "Start" button. To the right of the main content, there is a "Ticket Fields details" section with a table of ticket information and an "Attachments" section with a "Drop files here" area.

Number	Priority
CS0001434	3 - Moderate
State	Updated
New	just now

10/7/20 Update:
This "Close Case"
Option has been
removed.

Guidance on Submitting Both POC and Vendor Testing Data

- What if you used lab and point of care in same week? Do you do 2 cases?
 - For reporting testing activity through the “Nursing Home COVID Test Reporting” option on the Portal, you only need to submit 1 case and just note “yes” to question reflected below.

* Did facility utilize Point of Care testing device for any of testing performed this week?

- For supporting financial documentation,
 - Please submit an entry for each testing method for which the facility is requesting an interim payment. If requesting payment for both vendor-based and POC testing, the facility would make 2 submissions, resulting in 2 cases.

* Testing type

- Lab Vendor Point of Care Device Other

Clarification for Combination Facilities (NH and ACH beds)

	Secretarial Order No. 2 Guidance	Secretarial Order No. 4 Guidance
Staff Census	<p>*Staff who work in both sections of the facility, should be included.</p> <p>*Staff who work in only the ACH section should be excluded.</p>	<p>Staff who work in both sections of the facility should be included. Staff who work exclusively in the adult care home section of the facility are not required to be included in the census, but if a facility tests and seeks reimbursement for tests, these staff should be included in both the census and testing counts.</p>
Resident Census	<p>Residents in adult care home beds within combination facility not expressly addressed in guidance.</p>	<p>State defers to facility on whether these residents are included in reported census. If included in testing count, should also be included in census.</p>
Allowable Payment		<p>Expanded to allow reimbursement of staff who work exclusively in ACH section if both sections in same building.</p>

If our facility wants to continue to do bi-weekly testing even though our county is considered low, would we still receive financial support?

- Yes. A facility that elects to continue an every other week staff testing schedule, exceeding the schedule required for facilities in counties with **low** COVID-19 Community Activity levels,* may seek reimbursement to maintain every other week staff surveillance testing schedule.

* See CMS QSO-20-38-NH Transmittal

Staff Level Roster as Part of Reconciliation Process

Reminder of slides shared during August Training

Vendor Invoice/Roster

- Itemized vendor invoice or staff/HCP roster will be required as part of reconciliation (not required for interim payment).
- Vendor invoice/roster must include minimally
 - Staff level detail of number of tests performed and DOS.
- NC DHHS will develop roster template and distribute.
- If nursing home sought an interim payment for testing-related costs, the roster will need to include all HCPs tested, regardless of testing methodology.

Simplified Example for Illustration Only: Staff Roster Template

Staff Roster	Tests performed for Dates of Service: [listed here] Tests	Additional data elements as required by the Department (TBD).
Staff A	4	
Staff B	6	
Staff C	4	
Staff D	4	

Staff Roster, Modifications and Updates

- Due to the variance in invoice formats and types of testing now covered, each provider receiving interim payments under Secretarial Order No. 2 and No. 4 will provide a de-identified staff roster as part of its reconciliation process.
- Feedback from template circulated among “pilot” facilities (thank you!) is being considered and may result in a modified format to better meet facility’s current tracking.
 - Tracking by de-identified staff across Reporting Periods
 - Tracking by reporting period, listing de-identified staff

Staff Roster Fields

- De-identified Staff/HCP Reference
- # of tests that specific staff/HCP received during the testing week.
- The invoice number cross reference associated with those tests.
- The applicable case number associated with those tests.

Part of a Larger Reconciliation Process

- NC Medicaid is conducting “rolling reconciliation” of projected costs to actual cost submissions, as actuals are submitted.
- THANK YOU for not holding actual invoices once you receive them from vendors. Please submit as soon as practicable, as part of your Reporting Period submission.
- Additional guidance about submission deadlines and oversight guidance to be provided at a later date.
- Staff roster will be submitted as part of final reconciliation process.

Questions on Visitation

Questions on Point of Care Antigen Testing Reporting

Staying in Touch

- Reminder: Office Hours extended through next Thursday, 10/15/2020 at 10-11a to discuss Staff Roster template/other portal-related activities.
- For questions in the meantime about COVID-19 Testing: Nursing Home Portal, please email Medicaid.ProviderReimbursement@dhhs.nc.gov
- Will likely launch a final Office Hours series later in the year to assist with reconciliation guidance and as Secretarial Order No. 4 is due to expire.
- For questions about CMS federal requirements:
 - **Cindy Deporter** at cindy.deporter@dhhs.nc.gov or **Becky Wertz** at becky.wertz@dhhs.nc.gov

Questions and Answers