

Lancaster County NF & AL Connection

September 1, 2020

Agenda

- Purpose
 - Connect on info
- Follow-up from last connection
- Hot topics
 - Communications
 - Testing
 - Phasing
 - PPE
 - Survey

Test Nebraska Results

When collecting specimens:

- Register using Nebraska's process – next slide
- Do not write on the specimen packages – will invalidate the sample
- Do not include additional spreadsheets or other information – will stop or invalidate the sample



Guidance For Facilities



◀ Back to
COVID-19 Resources for Health Care
Providers

- **Long-term Care (LTC) Facilities**
- [Testing Instructions for Long-term Care Facilities](#)
- [Packaging and Shipping of COVID-19 Specimens](#)
- [LTC Testing Process - Clarification Meeting Presentation](#) - July 10, 2020
- [Facility Aggregate Testing Results - Guidance Document](#)

For Questions on Registration Process, Specimen Collection, and Test Results:

Becky Wisell, Interim Deputy Director

Health Licensure and Environmental Health

becky.wisell@nebraska.gov

402-471-0928

Claire Covert-ByBee, Program Manager

Licensure Unit

Office of Rehabilitation and Community Services

claire.covertbybee@nebraska.gov

402-471-0547

Dan Taylor, DHHS Nurse Consultant

Licensure Unit, Office of Nursing and Nursing Support

daniel.taylor@nebraska.gov

402-471-4969

Antonio Carranza, Health Licensing Coordinator

Licensure Unit

Office of Rehabilitation and Community Services

antonio.carranza@nebraska.gov

402-471-0153



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Table 1: Testing Summary

Testing Trigger	Staff	Residents
Symptomatic individual identified	Staff with signs and symptoms must be tested	Residents with signs and symptoms must be tested
Outbreak (Any new case arises in facility)	Test all staff that previously tested negative until no new cases are identified*	Test all residents that previously tested negative until no new cases are identified*
Routine testing	According to Table 2 below	Not recommended, unless the resident leaves the facility routinely.

*For outbreak testing, all staff and residents should be tested, and all staff and residents that tested negative should be retested every 3 days to 7 days until testing identifies no new cases of COVID-19 infection among staff or residents for a period of at least 14 days since the most recent positive result.

Table 2: Routine Testing Intervals Vary by Community COVID-19 Activity Level

Community COVID-19 Activity	County Positivity Rate in the past week	Minimum Testing Frequency
Low	<5%	Once a month
Medium	5% - 10%	Once a week*
High	>10%	Twice a week*

***This frequency presumes availability of Point of Care testing on-site at the nursing home or where off-site testing turnaround time is <48 hours.**

If the 48-hour turn-around time cannot be met due to community testing supply shortages, limited access or inability of laboratories to process tests within 48 hours, the facility should have documentation of its efforts to obtain quick turnaround test results with the identified laboratory or laboratories and contact with the local and state health departments.

“Facility Staff”

- Employees
- Consultants
- Contractors
- Volunteers
- Caregivers who provide care and services to residents on behalf of the facility
- Students in the facility’s nurse aide training programs or affiliates

“Individuals providing services under arrangement and volunteers”

- Prioritize those in the facility on a regular basis (e.g. weekly) and have contact with residents/staff
- Facilities may have provisions under its arrangement with vendors or volunteers that requires them to be tested by another source (e.g. their employer or on their own)
- Facility is still responsible for obtaining documentation that testing was completed during the facility’s required time frame
- Facility is required to report data for all testing completed (CLIA requirement)
- Must have order allowing for testing – can be standing order