



**COVID-19 Question and Answer Session
for Long-Term Care and Congregate
Residential Settings**

April 10, 2020

Agenda

- Past and upcoming webinars
- Summary of LTC/Congregate setting online survey
- Latest CDC and IDPH updates
- Open Q & A

Slides and recording will be made available after the session.

Past Webinars

- **3/9/20 (IDPH):** What LTC Facilities Need to Know to Prepare for and Respond to COVID-19
 - <https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/lsr.php?RCID=93ffb4347384747a60c59c1c4508e67e>
- **3/12/20 (IDPH):** LTC Facilities COVID-19 Q & A
 - <https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/lsr.php?RCID=531d4c84ebc211d99882b1f6c40dffe4>
- **Recorded video (CDC):** Preparing Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities for COVID-19
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p1FiVfx5O78>

Future IDPH sessions

- **Wed, 4/15, 1 – 2 pm:**

Personal Protective Equipment and
Transmission-Based Precautions, Resident
Placement, and Crisis Capacity Strategies

- <https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/onstage/g.php?MTID=ecdbea3730c588c156fdf634647575071>

- **Fri, 4/24 and 5/1, 1 – 2 pm:**

Brief updates and open Q&A

- <https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/onstage/g.php?MTID=e100e7e59574001008042c408d2a77823>
- <https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/onstage/g.php?MTID=ed4e93f7548115c34ed5813af4d44d12a>

Slides and recordings will be made available after the sessions.

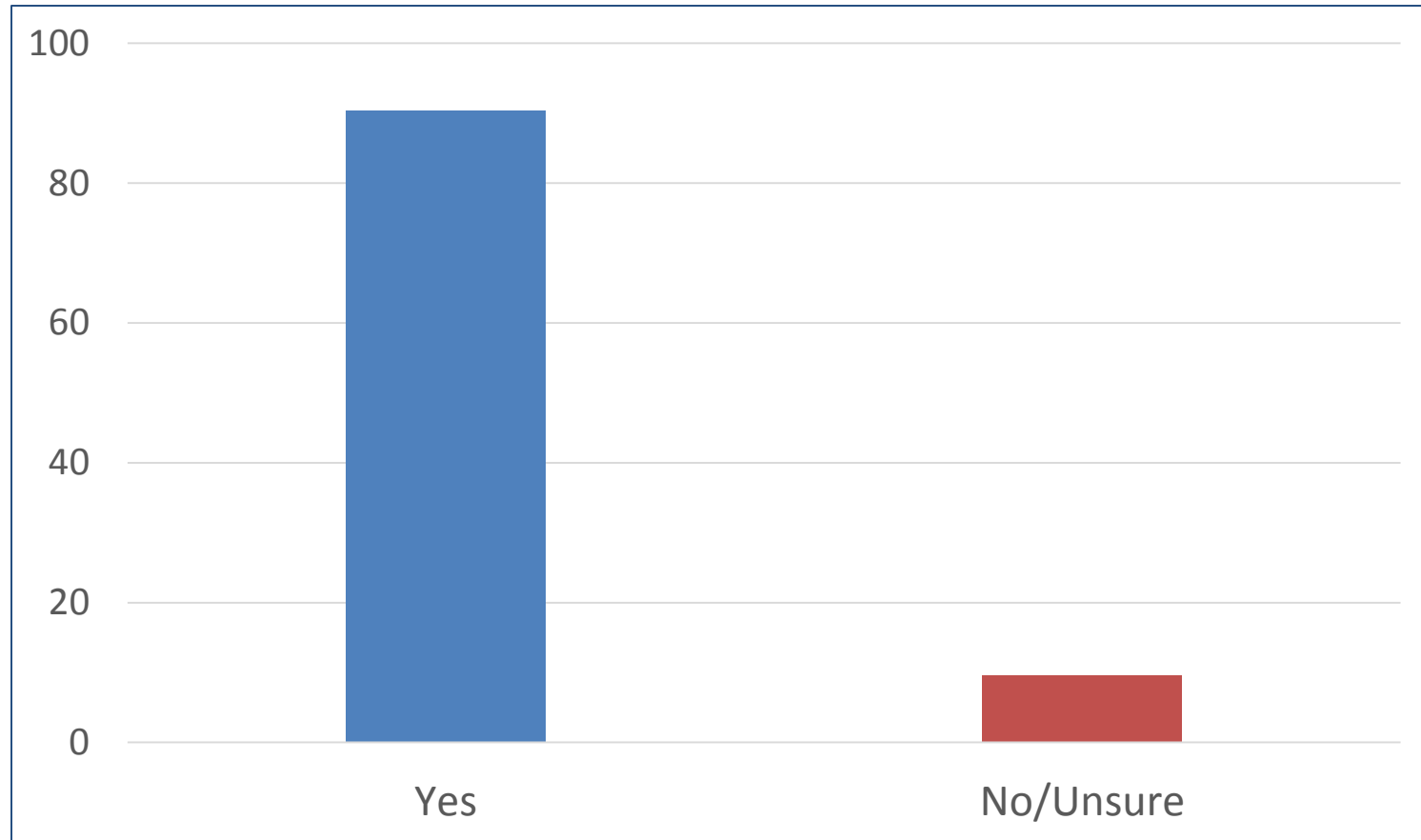
COVID-19 Online Assessment

- **Sent March 20**
- **Assessment domains:**
 - Visitor restrictions
 - Education, monitoring, and screening of Healthcare Personnel (HCP)
 - Education, monitoring, and screening of Residents
 - Availability of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and alcohol-based hand rub
 - Infection Prevention Practices:
 - Hand hygiene
 - Use of PPE
 - Cleaning and disinfection of environmental surfaces and resident care equipment

Assessment – Results

Facility Type	Number of Respondents
Skilled Nursing	590
Assisted Living	181
Supportive Living	123
Intermediate Care	73
Independent Living	24
Residential Group Home	27
Other/Missing	86
Total	1075

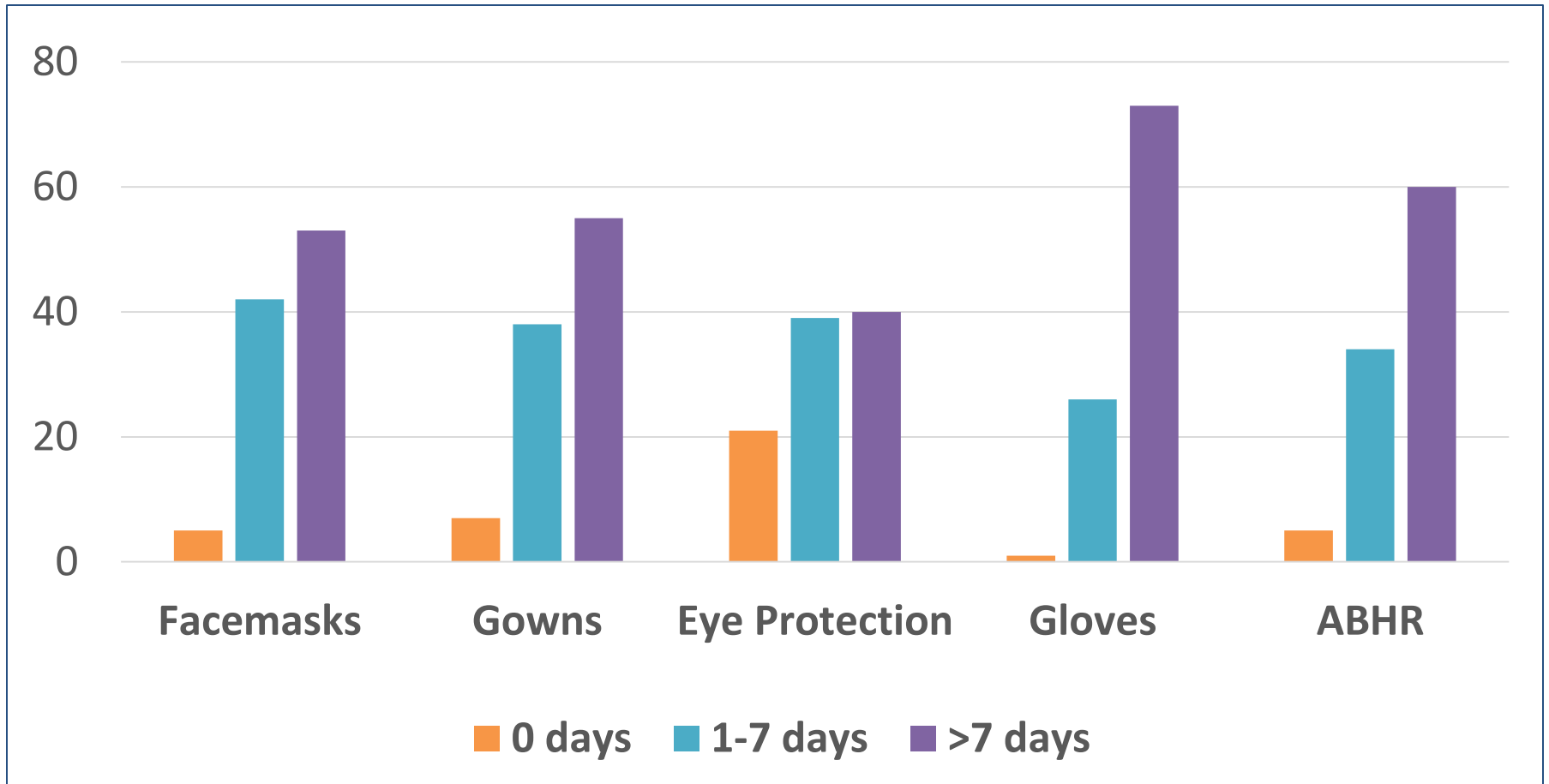
Does at least one staff member receive SIREN alerts?



*Important communication sent via SIREN. Sign up here!

<https://www.siren.illinois.gov/>

Days' Supply of PPE/Alcohol-Based Hand Rub



PPE supplies



Short supply of PPE was most often mentioned issue



Contact local health department (e.g., emergency response coordinator).



Use CDC PPE burn rate calculator.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/burn-calculator.html>



Optimize PPE supply.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/index.html>

Visitors

	Completed	In progress	Not started
Facility restricts all visitors except for compassionate care	98%	1%	1%
Facility screens allowed visitors and restricts anyone with symptoms, contact with a COVID-19 case, or travel to affected areas	97%	1%	2%
Facility has provided alternative methods for visitation (e.g., video conferencing)	91%	7%	2%

“We are using FaceTime, Skype, visits through windows and cell phones, cards and letters are all helping ease residents at this time.”

“FaceTime/Video Chats are difficult for some residents with hearing loss and some don't grasp the concept.”

Healthcare personnel (HCP)

	Completed	In progress	Not started
Facility screens all HCP at the beginning of their shift for fever and respiratory symptoms.	97%	3%	<1%
Facility has established a plan for when HCP with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 can return to work	94%	6%	<1%
Facility keeps a list of symptomatic HCP	Yes 94%	No <1%	N/A 6%

“... staffing resources are challenged...”

“...we have several staff members who work in multiple facilities and we would like to be informed of outbreaks in other facilities so we can take the necessary precautions...”

“Staff anxiety and fear of acquiring the infection can be a challenge.”

Residents

	Yes	No
Facility actively monitors all residents (at least daily) for fever and respiratory symptoms (shortness of breath, new or change in cough, sore throat, and pulse oximetry).	97%	3%
Residents with suspected respiratory infections are immediately placed in Contact/Droplet Precautions with eye protection	95%	5%
Facility has established criteria for closing units or the entire facility to new admissions	76%	24%

“At this time facility is not admitting COVID-19 positive patients and requests clarification from IDPH as to transferring facility's requirement to test before discharge to SNF.”

“Tips/techniques for middle to late stage Alzheimer’s patients if we do get a COVID case. ... Limiting activities increases behaviors...”

Additional Infection Control Actions

	Yes	No
Facility has a hand hygiene monitoring program	73%	27%
Facility has implemented universal use of facemasks for HCP while in the facility*	38%	62%
Facility notifies the health department about any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• COVID-19 is suspected or confirmed in a resident or healthcare provider• A resident has severe respiratory infection• A cluster (e.g., ≥ 3 residents or HCP with new-onset respiratory symptoms over 72 hours) of residents or HCP with symptoms of respiratory infection is identified.	100%	<1%

**This question was asked before the universal facemask recommendation was issued, 3/31/20.*

IDPH Guidance Location

Web Portal

The screenshot shows the IDPH website interface. At the top left is the IDPH logo (ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH). To the right is a search bar labeled "Search this site". Below the logo is a navigation menu with items: Applications, Communities, Projects, CD Topics A to Z, Worksite Wellness, and Employee Recognition. A left sidebar contains a menu with: Communicable Disease Control, Infectious Disease Updates, COVID-19, CD Topics A to Z (highlighted), Training Resources, Archived Webinars, and Recent. The main content area shows a breadcrumb trail: Home > Communities > Communicable Disease Control > CD Topics A-Z. The main heading is "COVID 19 Healthcare Resources and Infection Control" with a sub-heading "IDPH COVID-19 Pages". Below this is a table of links:

COVID 19 (Novel Coronavirus – 2019)	COVID 19 PUI Investigation and Laboratory Testing	COVID 19 Contact Tracing and Travel Monitoring
COVID 19 Case Investigation Steps	COVID-19 Resources for Public Health Departments	COVID-19 CD Section Recorded Webinars

Below the table is a link: [COVID-19 Portal Pages: Index of Documents and Links](#)

Further down is a link: [IDPH and UIC Congregate Setting Response Team Contacts 04022020](#)

A section titled "Outbreaks/Clusters of COVID-19: Definitions" contains the following text:

LTC/assisted living facilities only-1 laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 case plus others ill with similar symptoms, but may not be tested yet.

For all other facilities/locations/events-2 or more laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases linked to the same site.

Health care facilities-not hospitals- strong link between a laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 case and resultant cases in a health care facility.

Example: one HCW symptomatic, tested positive and multiple other staff/patients developed confirmed COVID-19 during the 14 days following exposure. The link should be a strong link.

A section titled "Healthcare Resources" contains a list of links:

- [Interim Clinical Guidance v.2 03182020](#)
- [Updated Interim Guidance LTCF 03.20.20 \(Also see LTC Setting section below.\)](#)
- [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Suspect or Confirmed COVID-](#)

*Communication sent via SIREN, <https://www.siren.illinois.gov/>




IDPH Guidance Location


Public facing site



ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

ABOUT | EVENTS | CAREERS



 Today's Daily Press Conference for COVID-19 will begin at 2:30 pm [Click Here to Watch Live](#)

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Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

- About COVID-19
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Daily COVID-19 Press Releases
- Governor Pritzker's Executive Orders and Rules
- Health Care Providers & Facilities
 - [Elective Surgical Procedure Guidance](#)
 - [Requesting COVID-19 Testing at IDPH Laboratories](#)
- Community Guidance
 - [Business and Organization Guidance](#)
 - [Children & Pregnant Women Guidance](#)

Long Term Care Facilities Guidance

COVID19 Control Measures for Long Term Care Interim Guidance (subject to change) March 20, 2020

Outbreak definition:


One lab confirmed case of COVID19 and at least one case of COVID-like illness (CLI) with onsets within 14 days of each other

NOTE: Once one positive case is identified, no additional testing is needed in either residents or staff

Residents

- All residents should be screened by obtaining full set of vitals AND pulse oximetry every 8 hours (Q8 hours)
- If patients have been screened and their testing is POSITIVE for COVID-19 OR if patients have signs/symptoms of a respiratory viral infection:
 - a) Full Vitals AND pulse oximetry every 4 hours (Q4hours) {twice a shift}

RESOURCES



- [CDC Long Term Care Facilities COVID-19 Guidance](#)
- [IDPH Long Term Care COVID-19 Guidance](#)
- [Visitor Restriction Guidance](#)
- [Checklist for Long Term Care Facilities](#)
- [Sample Long Term Care Facility Letter](#)
- [Employee Monitoring Tool](#)
- [Nebulizer Treatments for COVID-19 Cases](#)

CDC Recently Released or Updated Guidance



PPE donning/doffing fact sheet with pictures

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/using-ppe.html>



Strategies to mitigate HCP staff shortages

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/mitigating-staff-shortages.html>



Added to FAQ on what is considered an aerosolizing procedure

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-faq.html>

IDPH Recently Released or Updated Guidance



Interim Recommendations to Reduce Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in Congregate Living Facilities: Universal Masking and Enhanced Environmental Disinfection – 3/31/20



Healthcare Worker (HCW) COVID-19 Symptom Self-Monitoring Form – 4/1/20



Transfer of Patients from Hospital Settings to Skilled and Intermediate Long-term Care Facilities – 4/7/20



Return to Work Criteria for HCW with Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19 – 4/8/20