



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

July 2, 2020

Housekeeping

- All attendees in listen-only mode
- Submit questions via Q&A pod to **All Panelists**
 - Any other comments, feedback, suggestions for future topics, etc, please submit via chat
- Slides and recording will be made available later

Agenda

- Upcoming webinars
- Testing in Long Term Care
- PPE Guidance
- FAQ
- Open Q & A

Slides and recording will be made available after the session.

IDPH webinars

Friday Brief Updates and Open Q&A (1-2 pm):

July 10th Friday 1:00 to 2:00 pm

<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/onstage/g.php?MTID=e0b8a10aae7823798f5fa78bcb0c585ec>

July 17th Friday 1:00 to 2:00 pm

<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/onstage/g.php?MTID=e1412e4e4f1c6f204713c41dff05b0faa>

July 22nd (Wednesday) 1:00 to 2:00 pm

<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/onstage/g.php?MTID=eaf69b9029b976659b9a6800f2fc65808>

July 31st Friday 1:00 to 2:00 pm

<https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/onstage/g.php?MTID=ef3d3c21f3c32f5a1e972ed616bd5eb0c>

Slides and recordings will be made available after the sessions.



LTC Testing Reminders

- The IDPH Lab's limited testing capacity needs to be preserved for acute or emerging outbreaks.
- Under Emergency Rule (77 Il. Adm. Code 300), skilled nursing and intermediate care facilities required to:
 - **contract or partner with a non-IDPH laboratory** (e.g., commercial or hospital-based) to provide COVID-19 testing services.
 - **name this laboratory in their testing plan.**
 - Other LTC facility types **should** follow this process.

Mobile testing teams

- IDPH has contracted with a vendor to provide mobile testing teams to LTCFs
 - 6 teams available (3 in NE Restore region, 1 North-Central, 1 Central, 1 Southern), 7 days/week
 - Will arrive with supplies, personnel to conduct swabbing and assist with logistics
 - After swabbing, will deliver samples to lab for testing
- Facilities with active outbreak/1 case or need onsite assistance for swabbing (including non-outbreak facilities) can sign up for mobile testing team at [this link](#)
 - IDPH representative will then contact your facility to explain the process and arrange for scheduling

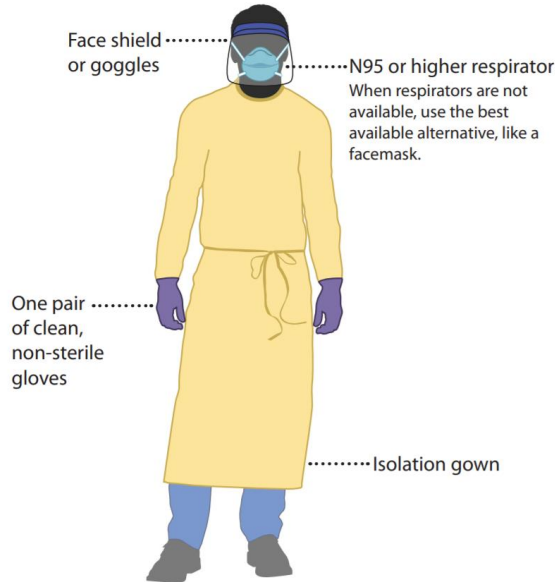
IDPH-led surveys for SNF/ICFs

- **“Look forward” survey**
 - Gathers testing data on a weekly basis
 - First sent via email to facility administrator or designee on 7/1
- **Emergency rule confirmation**
 - Asks facilities to confirm whether they’ve met requirements from ER (77 Il. Adm. Code 300)
 - Will need to upload testing plan and response strategy
 - Sent via email to facility administrator or designee on 7/2. Due by 7/10

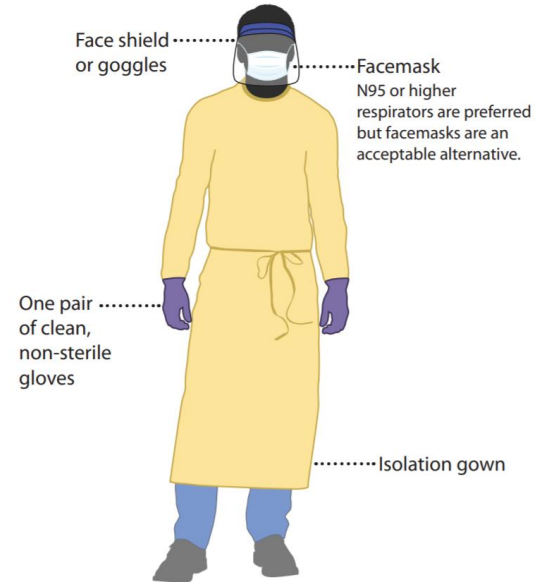
PPE Use for COVID-19

COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Healthcare Personnel

Preferred PPE – Use N95 or Higher Respirator



Acceptable Alternative PPE – Use Facemask



CS 315838-C 03/23/2020

[cdc.gov/COVID19](https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)

Optimizing PPE

Implement strategies to optimize current PPE supply even before shortages occur, including--
bundling patient/resident care and treatment activities to minimize entries into patient/resident rooms.



Gpushack.com

PPE Strategies

Additional strategies might include:

- Extended use of respirators, facemasks, and eye protection (face shield or goggles), which refers to the practice of wearing the same respirator or facemask and eye protection (face shield or goggles) for the care of more than one patient/resident (e.g., for an entire shift).
- Care must be taken to avoid touching the respirator, facemask, or eye protection (face shield or goggles). If this must occur (e.g., to adjust or reposition PPE), HCP should perform hand hygiene immediately after touching PPE to prevent contaminating themselves or others.



Isolation Gowns

- Ideally, gowns are for one-time use and disposed of after each patient/resident contact.
- If you do not have an adequate supply to do so, then gown use should be extended, prioritized, or re-used.
- For more information, refer to CDC guidance at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/isolation-gown> ... and the guidance below.

Isolation Gowns

Prioritizing gowns for activities where

- splashes and sprays are anticipated (including aerosol-generating procedures) and
- high-contact patient/resident care activities that provide opportunities for transfer of pathogens to hands and clothing of HCP.



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Extended Use of Gowns

Extended use of gowns means using the same gown for multiple patients/residents without removing and *should only be used on COVID units* and as long as individuals are not co-infected with another pathogen such as C diff.

Reminders

- Used PPE should not leave the building.
- Extended use of gowns on the COVID unit is only recommended during patient/resident care activities, and as such, gowns should not be worn in areas like nurses' stations, clean utility rooms, break rooms. HCP should not wear used PPE during times of eating and drinking.
- If they do not have enough gowns, they should reuse the gown and hang them somewhere with the most contaminated surfaces hanging inward.
- Any reusable PPE must be properly cleaned, decontaminated, and maintained after and between uses (e.g., face shields).

CDC

Using Personal Protective Equipment

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

Strategies to Optimize the Supply of PPE and Equipment

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

IDPH

PPE Guidance for COVID-19 in Long Term Care Settings

<http://dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/ppe-guidance-covid-19-long-term-care-settings>

FAQ from last week - Testing

- Q: Has there been clarification on how many test the insurances will cover if testing is weekly without an increase to insured person's premium or coverage issue?
- Q: Should facilities be blanketly testing all residents that have had positive results more than 8 weeks ago in their weekly testing or is it case by case basis?

FAQ from last week – Quarantine/Isolation/Cohorting

- Q: In the case of recovered COVID patient's - Can they return to their old room if they have double negative COVID test? Or cohort?
- Q: Our nursing home requires employees to be quarantines after international travel x 14 days. Can the employees get tested instead and if negative come back to work before the 14 days is over?

FAQ from last week – Outdoor visitation

- Q: Can you please clarify the conditions that must be met to allow Outside Visitation? Does the 28 day rule of no positives in the building apply to Outside Visitation?

Open Q&A

Submit questions via Q&A pod to **All Panelists**

Submit suggestions for future topics, LTCFs best practices, lessons learned via Chat pod to **All Panelists**

Slides and recording will be made available after the session.

Reminder: SIREN Registration

To receive situational awareness from IDPH, please use this link to guide you to the correct registration instructions for your public health related classification:
<http://www.dph.illinois.gov/siren>