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

September 18th, 2020

Housekeeping

- All attendees in listen-only mode

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

- Slides and recording will be made available later

Agenda

- Upcoming webinars
- LTC Ombudsman
- Updates to LTC POC testing
- FAQ from last week
- Open Q & A

Slides and recording will be made available after the session.

IDPH webinars

Friday Brief Updates and Open Q&A

Friday, Sept.25th; 1:00 to 1:30 pm	https://illinois.webex.com/illinois/onstage/g.php?MTID=e7b843af115911fdbf0f93b4abab17286

Slides and recordings will be made available after the sessions.

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Access to LTC Ombudsman

CMS-certified nursing home must provide LTC Ombudsman with immediate access to any resident.

In-person access may be limited due to infection control concerns and/or transmission of COVID-19; however, in-person access may not be limited without reasonable cause.

Representatives of the Office of the Ombudsman should adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention.

If in-person access is not advisable, must have alternate means of access (e.g., phone or virtual visitation).

CMS QSO-20-39-NH: https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-39-nh.pdf

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Updates – LTC COVID-19 Antigen Point-of-Care Testing

September 18, 2020

HHS Distribution of Point-of-Care (POC) Testing to LTC

Background

- Antigen POC testing machines (Quidel or BD) and initial allotment of test kits to nursing homes
- Antigen tests (BinaxNOW) to nursing homes and assisted living

Websites

- HHS/CMS frequently asked questions sheet
- Point-of-care device allocation list

CLIA Certificate of Waiver is Required for Point-of-Care Testing

- Facilities conducting POCT must obtain appropriate certification and comply with Illinois CLIA rules: http://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/health-care-regulation/CLIA

- Per HHS/CMS, they will distribute POCT to nursing homes and AL only if they have a CLIA waiver. Nursing home deadline: Sept 30. AL deadline unknown

- Facilities that already had a waiver for other testing will need to fill out a CLIA Certificate Type Change form to add Antigen COVID-19 testing: http://www.dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/forms/clia-certificate-type-change-012318.pdf

Manufacturer Training for Ag POC Testing

BD Veritor
- https://www.bdveritor.com/

Quidel Sofia 2
- https://togetheragain.quidel.com/

Abbott BinaxNOW
- https://www.globalpointofcare.abbott/en/support/product-installation-training/navica-brand/navica-binaxnow-ag-training.html

*Also refer to manufacturer's instructions for use

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Reporting Requirements

- **Facility must report all POC testing results to public health authorities,** as required by federal law.*

- Ultimately, nursing homes will report patient-level positive and negative results to NHSN
  - New module estimated to be ready Oct 15
  - Will require facilities to transition from SAMS level 1 access (aggregate reporting) to SAMS level 3 (patient-level reporting; requires two-factor authentication). May take 4 weeks once process is started

*COVID-19 Pandemic Response, Laboratory Data Reporting: CARES Act Section 18115
https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/covid-19-laboratory-data-reporting-guidance.pdf

Also refer to CMS memo QSO-20-37-CLIA, NH: https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-37-clianh.pdf

Increasing LTCF SAMS Level Access to NHSN

Step 1 – Receive Communication from SAMS

The CDC will submit a request to increase your security level access. Check your email inbox for communication from SAMS, via sams-no-reply@cdc.gov, requesting two forms of identification (ID)*.

*An email will be sent to you 3 to 5 business days after the SAMS access request.

*You must provide one (1) unexpired document from List A and one (1) additional unexpired document from List B. A copy of each ID must be included in your submission.

View list of SAMS identity verification documents 📄 [PDF – 150 KB].

Refer here for subsequent steps: https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/ltc/covid19/sams-access.html

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Reporting Requirements (cont)

Until the NHSN solution for reporting is ready, IDPH is creating a new system for reporting POC testing results using the REDCap platform.

1. Each facility will need to register in this system with their CLIA certificate number and a point-of-contact email address using this link: https://redcap.dph.illinois.gov/surveys/?s=XJARKWRP7E.

2. Once the system is ready and the registration is processed:
   - Point-of-contact will receive a unique link to begin reporting positives and negatives.
   - Note: While waiting for access to this new system, please report any positives to I-NEDSS. If your facility doesn't have I-NEDSS access, please report positives to your local health department.

COVID-19 point-of-
care reporting -
REDcap registration

Reporter Information

Name: |Full name|

Phone: |10 digits with no spaces or symbols|

Email: |Email address|

Facility & Provider Information

Provider Name: |Provider/doctor who ordered testing|

Facility/Provider CLIA: |Enter the CLIA for your facility.|

Facility/Client Name: |Facility/client who ordered testing|

Facility/Provider Street Address: |Facility/provider street address|

Facility/Provider Street Address 2: |Department, building, suite, etc.|

Facility/Provider City: |Facility/provider city|

Facility/Provider State: |IL ▾|

Ordering Facility/Provider Zip: |5 digits no plus 4|

Facility/Provider Phone Number: |10 digits with no spaces or symbols|

COVID-19 point-of-care reporting - REDcap registration

COVID Testing Information

POC Testing Device Name (Manufacturer): [For example, Roche, Cepheid, etc.]
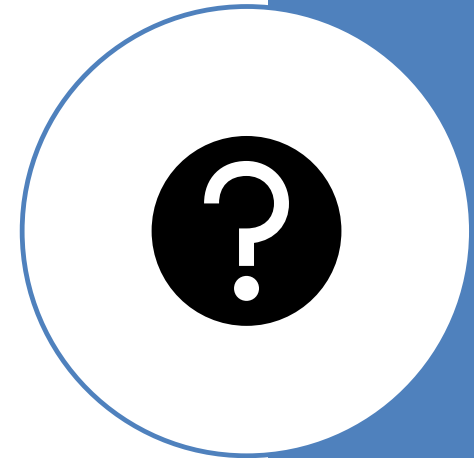
POC Test(s) your facility is performing (select all of the in house testing that you are conducting):

COVID-19 PCR (SARS-CoV-2 RNA)

COVID-19 Antibody IgM

COVID-19 Antibody IgG

COVID-19 Antibody IgA

COVID-19 Total Antibody

COVID-19 Antigen

reset

Ag Testing Q&A

- Q: Can we continue to use our lab for PCR testing or are we required to use the antigen tests?

    - A: If a facility has a lab that can do RT-PCR and has a quick turnaround time, they may continue to use the lab.
    - Antigen POC testing is just one tool to conduct testing.

- Q: We got a BD machine and BinaxNow tests. Which should we use?

    - A: You may use either. Remember to follow instructions for use for whichever method you use. Consider using consistent approach to testing (e.g., if doing a round of HCP testing, use one method at a time)

Ag Testing Q&A

- Q: Once we start reporting POC results to REDCap, do we still report to INEDSS?
  - A: No. The POC reporting system in REDCap will replace direct POC reporting to INEDSS.

- Q: I work at a local health department and have received routine HCP testing results from a LTC facility that are all negative. What should I do with those?
  - A: For now, these are useful for situational awareness. Once the REDCap system is in production, facilities will need to report all negatives there.

FAQ from last week

- Q: Can a "No Touch" style of thermometer be used for screenings if the readings are in increments of .5 ? It <u>will</u> "alarm" at 100 or above.

- Q: What can you advise on the use of water fountains in a Behavioral Health unit during this pandemic?

Open Q&A

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

Please do not resubmit a single question multiple times

Slides and recording will be made available after the session.

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Reminders

- 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

- NHSN Data Assistance
  - Contact Telligen: **nursinghome@telligen.com**