**Remaining questions from 1/13/22**

[11:58 AM] Toole, Sandy

Under outbreak testing guidance it states not to test someone within 90 days of infection. However the return to work guidelines say return to work within 7 days with a negative test. What is your suggestion-should we follow the test guidelines even though it will most likely be positive?

**CDC newly gave this option to test to return to work early with a negative test, to help with staffing shortages. If positive at 7 days, they will have to complete the usual duration of isolation and no need to test at 10 days before return to work.**

[12:23 PM] Angie

Can someone give an update on IDH PPE and testing supplies. We are having delays on getting our order approved from IDH.

**IDOH does not have any rapid tests available due to nation-wide shortages.**

**Amy: I have not heard of any issues with PPE ordering for LTC. In fact, I confirmed that we have KN 95s available if they want to order them for visitors. Demand is up so orders may be taking longer to process and deliver.**

[12:27 PM] Lori r

For residents which is the better choice? Monoclonal antibody or antiviral pill?

**Depends on what is available, as the supplies are limited. Please refer to the therapeutic decision tree on my slides to determine best option for each individual.**

[12:36 PM] Brent Swan (Guest)

Are we hearing it right, that now, anyone who received their primary series, didn't get a booster when eligible, and is then exposed - they will now require the full quarantine that an unvaccinated employee would require?

**Fully vaccinated but not taken booster when eligible is not protected as those that received the booster. Quarantine recommendation is based on being uptodate or not update.**

[12:36 PM] Janine Buzick

Reporting question: We have a new employee who was only in the building on the 5th for a couple of hours, she was only in the office, not around any residents. On the 9th she reported having Sx of COVID. was unable to get a PCR until the 11th. She received the results yesterday and they were positive. Do I report this on the case report form?

**Since the HCP was not in the building in the two days prior to start of symptoms, that is not facility associated. So, no need for the facility to report on the REDCap.**

[12:37 PM] Jenni Flowers

We have a resident who was fully vaccinated 4/5/21. She has not been boosted. She was hospitalized with COVID starting 12/21/21. Can she receive booster now, or should we wait?

**If the resident is fully recovered from COVID, she can receive the booster now.**

[12:37 PM] Stephanie Peterson

The MAB treatment has been very difficult to obtain. I have called each of sites in my region on the ISDH website. The folks running those sites give a myriad of answers. Most tell me they are on allocation and don't have enough by the time they get more it will be too late.

**There is only kind of monoclonal antibody that is effective against omicron and supplies are limited.**

One site told me they only take private pay. **From what I learnt, the drug is free, but they can charge for administration**

Some have never returned my calls. Others only administer MAB on their site so I would need to transfer my +sick residents to their site. **Due to the expertise needed to administer and monitor and due to limited supplies, they can be administered only at the centers that signed up to receive allocations.**

Overall these medication are not easily accessible for LTC facilities. I am being told today one facility finally has 2 residents that will receive something (trying to determine which drugs and from where they are obtaining) **The treatment supplies are limited and everyone including LTC facilities that have access issues.**

[12:38 PM] Angie

Since we are seeing many asymptomatic positives, do we still need to complete the PCR? Or just consider them a true positive?

**With omicron’s transmission and presentation, positivity in asymptomatic, I would consider they are true positive unless you found no possible exposure in any shape or form. If there is no exposure chance, then follow up with PCR. CDC didn’t update the testing algorithm we used for this situation in the past (not sure if they are doing). Community prevalence of infection, current positivity are very high, making a case for a positive test to be true positive at the current time. That could change as the cases trend down.**

[12:41 PM] Carolyn Davidson

Once we have a confirmed PCR staff member, are we to send all symptomatic staff members that test PCO positive for a PCR?

**Any symptomatic positive POC does not require follow up with PCR.**

[12:46 PM] Missy Mantooth

Our county positivity rate is almost 26%. I have all staff in N95's. Are we allowed to ask visitors to wear them as well if we provide them?

**Sure**

[12:50 PM] Kelly Glasser

Our State IP stated that when COVID + staff meet criteria to come back to work on day #6, that they are not allowed to work with any residents considered in the green zone but could care for yellow zoned residents. If this is the case, the fact that our staff return to work sooner, really only helps if we have a COVID unit for them to work . Can you please clarify how this works.?

**When in crisis staffing, prioritize in the following order: non resident work, red zone, yellow zone and as a last resort place them working in green zone. Do not assign COVID positive HCP to care of immunocompromised in any zone till they meet return to work criteria**

[12:52 PM] Kelly Borror

Do we continue to "pause" visitation during the first round of resident outbreak testing until it is complete?

**That was old guidance. Now inform the visitors that we are in outbreak testing, inform the resident and the visitors the risks and allow if the resident would like the visit to happen.**

12:54 PM] IP Avon

Are we still not testing those who are covid recovered for 90 days? Why is this still a rule when re-infections are still possible?

**We do test if symptomatic within 90 days of COVID infection. We are awaiting CDC new guidance if any change regarding test if a resident had exposure or another reason.**

[12:54 PM] Courtney Walin (Guest)

Is there going to be new guidance regarding quarantining for new admissions or post exposure regarding fully vaccinated residents and up to date residents and differentiating the difference on what to do?

**Awaiting new CDC guidance**

[12:55 PM] Jen Armendariz

To clarify, if we have done 2 rounds of resident testing and the original positive resident tested negative (both via PCR) 3 days after being positive and asymptomatic, (but still in red zone quarantined) we can resume communal dining prior to the 14 days for residents who remained negative?

**Sounds like it was a false positive POC, so not in outbreak. So, you should resume communal dining**. **You** should ag

[12:57 PM] (Guest)

I would like clarification on exposure. Residents who are exposed, but have had Covid within the past 90 days do not need to be restricted, but staff need to quarantine? The CDC guidance states if a HCP is exposed,  vaccinated or unvaccinated (even if within 90 days of prior infection) they should not work for 10 days or 7 days with a negative test.

**CDC revised staff guidance, still working on LTC specific. We and CDC realize there is discrepancy. Please follow what is currently posted for each category.**

[12:59 PM] Tammie K Wilson

Where do I find guidelines specific for assisted-living only facility?

**The CDC guidance is best practice and you should follow that.  If you have a specific question, send our way and we will send you the proper link.**

**Also, you should follow the guidance found in the IDOH guidance.  We have it divided into three sections:**

1. **Clinical**
2. **Infection Control**
3. **Visitation, Dining and Activities.**

[1:02 PM] Jen Armendariz

We need to allow the exposed visitors in, given Dr. V JUST told us how fast omicron is spreading and how many people are asymptomatic?

**Depends on if they are uptodate on the vaccine/booster. If uptodate, they do not need to quarantine due to exposure, so can visit. If not uptodate, they need to quarantine, so cannot visit till complete the full ten days.**

[1:02 PM] Alpha Baez

Now patients who are fully vaccinated asymptomatic but tested positive do they do the full 10 day isolation?

**Anyone that tests positive irrespective or vaccination/booster will need to isolate. This is the case whether or not they have symptoms.**