

MARCH 3, 2022

# LTC COVID-19 UPDATE

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# OUR DISCUSSION TODAY

- NHSN reports used by surveyors (Kara Dawson)
- Answers from last weeks remaining questions (Lori Davenport)
- Commonly asked questions of the week with answers (Lori Davenport)
- Q & A



# Questions and Answers from last week

# Question #1

When does the 14-day quarantine come into play now?

**Answer:**

Quarantine is 10 days.

Isolation can be longer if severe illness, hospitalized or immunocompromised.



## Question #2

If a fully vaccinated resident (not boosted) leaves the facility with a family or friend for greater than 24 hours ... Are they now required to be on TBP for 10 days?

Yes



# Question #3

So, we aren't allowed to add our employees to CHIRP when the facility gives them a vaccine and or use CHIRP to verify employee COVID-19 vaccination?

## Answer:

Under the state law that governs confidentiality of information the state's immunization registry and the user agreement that providers sign when they obtain access, use of information in CHIRP is limited.

CHIRP allows providers access the immunization records for the purposes of patient care, not to verify compliance among a provider's employees. Where access is to allow assessing compliance with vaccine requirements. There is not similar allowances in the CHIRP statute for providers, even with the consent of employees.



# Continued -

LTC facilities are only permitted to access immunization records in CHIRP for their residents/patients, no one else. If the facility administers a COVID vaccine to an employee, they should still enter the record into CHIRP as they do for residents.



# Question #4

Thoughts on independent living residents from unlicensed areas who are unvaccinated attending events, chapel, dining room, in the licensed areas of nursing home?

**Answer:**

Treat as you do a visitor.





# Question #5

Are residents allowed to refuse to wear facemasks in the common areas?

**Answer:**

Yes, the resident may choose to refuse but cannot be around other residents who may be harmed by their action.



# Resident refuses to wear a mask in a common area – What to do?

- Educate the individual with the logic and reason why the individual is asked to wear a mask.
- Offer alternatives
- Offer to answer additional questions
- Elevate to consequences
- Document each encounter and the response of the individual ( adherence to request or continued refusal)



# Question #6

Want to re-visit Assisted Living. CDC guidance refers to Assisted Living in this guidance. To my knowledge this guidance does not speak to admissions and TBP or testing. Is it fair to say that Assisted Living folks should follow this guidance?

[https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html?CDC\\_AA\\_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fhcp%2Finfection-control-after-vaccination.html#anchor\\_1604360738701](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-recommendations.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fhcp%2Finfection-control-after-vaccination.html#anchor_1604360738701)



# Question #6 continued

## Answer:

Long term care facilities provide a variety of services, both medical and personal care, to people who are unable to live independently. It is estimated that 1 to 3 million serious infections occur every year in:

- nursing homes
- skilled nursing facilities
- assisted living facilities
- CDC is committed to keeping long term care patients safe from infections.
- COVID-19 Guidance and Resources
- [Nursing Homes and Long-term Care Facilities](#)
- Our residents in AL are generally receiving services, medical and/or personal, so we have said to follow IC practices of LTCFs.



# Question #6

Reframed question:

Does the IDOH require licensed assisted living providers to follow the nursing home guidance related to admissions, readmissions, TBP or testing?

**Answer:**

No routine testing is required.

AL's must adhere to new admissions guidance and TBP as per the CDC guidance document.



# Question #7

Routine testing: If an individual is fully vaccinated but not up-to-date ... are they exempt from routine testing if asymptomatic and not a close contact (exposed) ?

**Answer:**

Yes



# Question #8

Is this a true statement:

A fully vaccinated staff including those without a booster (up-to-date), asymptomatic and not exposed, do not need an exemption (medical or religious) and would not be required to adhere to additional precautions?

**Answer:**

This is true. The regulation is to ensure all staff are fully vaccinated as defined: fully vaccinated (1 shot of J&J or series of COVID-19 FDA approved vaccination) **not including booster – if fully vaccinated, no exemptions or additional precautions are necessary.**



**IDOH is continuing to work on the final SOP revisions and a release date is in the near future.**





# Q&A

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**THANK YOU!**