

March 23, 2023

LTC COVID-19 Update

Presented by:

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Indiana Department of Health Team



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Today's Topics

- NHSN Planned Outage
- All about NIPF
- COVID Directives are they staying or leaving?
- Proficient Infection Preventionist
- Medicaid Coverage for your Residents
- Indiana Health Care Foundation Scholarships Now Available

Strategies for Social Services, a webinar on Mar. 28, details [HERE](#)

Infection Preventionist Webinar Series, starts April 12, details [HERE](#)

RAC-CT Certification course (in-person), May 9-11, details [HERE](#)



As of 3/22, IHCA/INCAL Spring Conference is sold out

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Upcoming Outage During Planned NHSN Database Upgrade

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NHSN Outage

- Friday, March 24 at 9:00p.m.
- Upgrade to the Secure Access Management Service (SAMS) database.
- **This could impact ability to submit data into NHSN during the outage window from Friday March 24-Sunday, March 26.**



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Recommended Action

- Plan submissions accordingly
- If the person submitting to NHSN is not on this call --- make sure you remind them of the outage today.

For questions, please contact nhsn@cdc.gov.



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New National Infection Prevention Forum

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What is NIPF ? – National Infection Prevention Forum

- A place to share best practices, lessons learned, and resources.
- A place to get questions answered.
- Rapidly disseminate federal updates and resources about infections in LTC as they become available from CDC, CMS or OSHA



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NIPF

- The American Health Care Association (AHCA) has partnered with the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) with funding from CDC Project First Line to set up the NIPF.
- Open to all LTC professionals focusing on infection prevention regardless of membership in AHCA or APIC
- Instructions on getting started are included in todays handout.
- If you have questions, please contact LTC-NIPFhelp@ahca.org



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COVID Directives

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Questions & Answers

- Will monthly reporting to the Ombudsman of COVID transfers always be mandated?
- Is there any thought that CMS will revoke the vaccine mandate for HCW?
- Could you update on continuing or discontinuing daily nursing assessment of residents with temperatures and oxygen saturation levels?



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Questions and Answers

- Any mention by IDOH or CMS about stopping some of the COVID directives going forward since the PHE ends on May 11?



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F888

- The staff COVID-19 vaccination requirements under F888 remain in effect for three years from the initiation on 11/5/21.
- End date is 11/5/24



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F887

- The education and offering of COVID-19 vaccination for residents under F887 applies to additional doses and remains in effect for three years from initiation on 5/21.
- End date 5/24



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F884

- The requirement to report cases through NHSN under F884 will remain in effect until 12/31/24.



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F886

- The requirement for COVID-19 testing of residents and staff under F886 will end but transition to national standards for testing.
- Remember that nursing homes must have infection prevention and control according to national standards. Test for symptoms and close contacts.



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The Proficient Infection Preventionist Upcoming Webinar Series Starts April 12

Details here:

<https://www.ihca.org/events/infection-preventionist-2023-webinar-series/>

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F885

- The requirement for notifying residents, their representatives, and families of residents of the status of COVID-19 in the facility under F885 will remain in effect until 12/31/24.



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AHCA Member Resources Ensuring Resident Medicaid Coverage Continues

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Background

Since March of 2020, States ceased Medicaid eligibility determinations and have been unable to disenroll any Medicaid beneficiaries from the Medicaid program.

Now that PHE is ending on May 11, States are returning to “regular” Medicaid redetermination schedules – they are busy to get caught up before May 2024.



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Why this is important to providers

- If a beneficiary loses Medicaid eligibility, Medicaid payments stop, and beneficiaries have clear protections in federal law for when breaks occur despite the loss of Medicaid payments.



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Things to think about

- Challenges
 - Staff turnover in nursing homes and/or assisted living business offices resulting in little or no Medicaid regermination experience?
 - Older adults and persons with disabilities functional criteria to meet Medicaid levels of care are unlikely to change, the people involved in managing their finances likely have changed.



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Resources to Support Providers

- Three modules to help with challenges are available to IHCA/AHCA members.
- For more information contact sign into ahcancaLED and take the courses now.



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Three modules

- Medicaid Unwinding – Provider Action Steps and Tools
- Financial Care Plan Development and Management
- Medicaid Application Development and Submission



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**Indiana Health Care Foundation Scholarships
Now Available**

**Learn more:
<https://www.indianahealthcarefoundation.org/scholarships>**

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2023 IHCF Long Term Care Scholarships

IHCF is excited to announce over \$30,000 in scholarship funds are now available to Indiana's long term care professionals! [Learn more here.](#)

- **Career Climb Scholarships:** Multiple scholarships valued at up to \$1,000 each are available to applicants to use toward any variety of LTC professional development opportunities, including conferences, certifications, college degree programs, one-day training events, etc. within the August 1 - December 31, 2023 time frame.
- **Nursing (LPN/ASN/BSN) Scholarships:** Multiple scholarships are available ranging from \$1,000 - \$5,000 dependent upon merit, need, and demand for individuals pursuing educational training for LPN/RN (PN/Associate/Bachelor) degrees.
- **Wound Care Certification Scholarship:** One scholarship valued at \$2,800 for an individual pursuing educational training for the Online Wound Care Management Course through the Wound Care Education Institute.
- **Health Facility Administrator/Residential Care Administrator Scholarship:** One scholarship valued at up to \$4,295 for an individual pursuing educational training for the Health Facility Administrator/Residential Care Administrator licensure course offered by Success Development, inc.
- **Social Service Designee Scholarship:** One scholarship valued at \$599 for an individual pursuing educational training for the six-day Social Services Designee course offered by Success Development, inc.

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Indiana Health Care Foundation Scholarships & Golf Outing

<https://www.indianahealthcarefoundation.org>

2023 IHCF Golf Outing

Registration is open for the 13th annual IHCF Golf Outing on Monday, May 22, at the Hawthorns Golf & Country Club in Fishers, Indiana

Register here: <https://indianahealthcarefoundationinc-bloom.kindful.com/e/2023-ihcf-golf-outing>



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**Schizophrenia Audits
More to come next week**

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Q&A

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THANK YOU!

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Contact Information

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Join the LTC National Infection Prevention Forum

Getting Started is Easy!

1. Log in to [AHCA/NCAL Connect](#).
 - If you are new, [create an account](#). Follow all prompts on the Create New Account page. NOTE: You must enter job role (in company information) to complete account creation
 - If you already have an account, Sign in with your username and password.
 - If you have forgotten your password, [click here](#).
2. Join the LTC National Infection Prevention Forum
 - The first time you sign in, you must agree to the terms and conditions in order to proceed.
 - Once you are successfully signed in to [AHCA/NCAL Connect](#), click the green Communities link.
 - Click the blue Request to Join button next to the link for LTC National Infection Prevention Forum. In the text box labeled **Please provide a short message for joining this community**, please include the following information:
 - Name
 - Email
 - Organization/Company name
 - Organization/Company State
 - Job Role
 - Additionally, please select an option for community discussion notifications. You may select Daily Digest or Real Time to receive email notifications when there is a message posted in the Forum. If you opt-out, you will not receive any email notifications.
 - You will receive an email indicating your request is being reviewed, and a second email when your request is approved.

Once approved, Join the Discussion!

Once your request is approved, you can access the Forum by signing in to [AHCA/NCAL Connect](#) and selecting the green Communities link and following the link for the LTC National Infection Prevention Forum. Please review the [AHCA/NCAL Connect Quick Start Guide](#) for more information about how to navigate the forum.

Important: Please add the following email addresses to your safe senders list:

- LTC-NIPFhelp@ahca.org
- mail@connectedcommunity.org
- donotreply@connectedcommunity.org

Questions: email LTC-NIPFhelp@ahca.org