

April 6, 2023

# LTC COVID-19 Update

Presented by:

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**Indiana Department of Health Team**



# Today's Topics



- Infection Preventionist Communication Forum
- Novavax Update
- CMS Updates – proposed rule updating Medicare payment policies and rates
- QSO-23-10-NH – Enhanced Enforcement for Infection Control Deficiencies and Quality Improvement Activities in Nursing Homes
- Resources – Schizophrenia MDS Audits and C. auris video
- Question of the week answered

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

***Thriving Therapy Departments***, a webinar on April 25, details [HERE](#)

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

***Mastering the Art & Science of Dementia Care***, an in-person workshop on May 25, details [HERE](#)

# Join a New LTC IPC Forum

- American Health Care Association (AHCA) partnered with APIC with funding from CDC Project Firstline to set up a national forum for IPs and infection prevention champions working in long-term care to share resources and get questions answered.
- You do not need to be a member of either AHCA or APIC to join this forum.
- If you are interested in participating, please complete this [three-question survey](#) to provide your name and email.

# Updates Regarding Novavax

# Novavax – COVID-19 Vaccine

- Ordering of Novavax COVID-19 vaccine (**NDC 80631-0100-10**) will end during the second half of the week starting April 3 (final date/time TBD).
- Please note that all viable doses of Novavax currently available have an expiration date of April 30, 2023.
- Doses ordered from now until when ordering ends will be short dated.
- There will be no shelf-life extensions for this product.



# Recommended Actions:

1. Remove expired vaccine vials immediately from storage units to avoid inadvertently administering them. Expired vaccine should NEVER be administered.
2. Discard the vaccine according to the manufacture's guidance, state and federal regulations.
3. Update their inventory of Novavax in Vaccine Finder. The current NDC of this vaccine should no longer be listed as in stock after April 30, 2023 (i.e., available doses should be zero).



# What happens now?

In order to have a non-mRNA COVID-19 vaccine available through the summer, an offering of a 5-dose vial presentation of Novavax COVID-19 vaccine (**NDC 80631-0102-01**), which contains ten 5 dose vials per carton.

Minimum order is 100 doses.

Expiration of new Novavax presentation will be 10/31/23

The timing of availability for this new presentation is the same date/time that the existing Novavax is turned off for ordering. This week!



# CMS Updates for Skilled Nursing Facilities

- CMS released a proposed rule updating Medicare payment policies and rates for skilled nursing facilities on April 4, 2023. – Not yet published
  - CMS estimates the proposed rate changes will result in a net increase of 3.7% or about 1.2 billion in Part A payments to providers in FY 2024 – includes net market basket of 2 billion increase.





# CMS Updates for SNF – continued

- Changes to PDPM ICD-10 code mappings
- Allow facilities to receive by default the 35 percent penalty reduction when the facility has not appealed within the 60-day timeframe. If finalized, this would reduce paperwork and no longer require a written waiver of a hearing to appeal deficiencies that lead to the imposition of a CMP.
- The proposed rule did not include minimum staffing requirements. CMS is reviewing feedback related to minimum staffing requirements – **proposals likely in the spring**



# Continued

- SNF Quality Reporting Program proposed changes include:
  - Adoption of Discharge Function Score Measure
  - Adoption of the CoreQ: Short /stay Discharge Measure
  - Adoption of the COVID-19 Vaccine - % of Residents Who are Up To Date Measure
  - Modify the COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage for HCP measure
  - Removal of three measures beginning in FY 2025
  - Raising the completion threshold to 90% for all MDS assessments submitted to CMS must contain 100% of required data items. Failure to do so will result in 2 percentage points to the applicable fiscal year payment update beginning with FY 2026.
  - FY 2025 – removal of three measures



# Continued

- SNF Value-Based Purchasing (VBP) Program for FY 2024 and beyond – proposed changes:
  - Adoption of the following:
    - Nurse Staff Turnover Measure
    - Discharge Function Score Measure
    - Long Stay Hospitalization Measure per 100 residents
    - Percent of Residents Experiencing One or More Falls with Major Injury – Long Stay Measure
    - Health Equity Adjustment that rewards SNFs who perform well and whose resident population is at least 20% dual eligibility status.



# Continued

- The rule is unpublished. It is scheduled to be published on 4/10/23.

To read the proposed rule follow the link below:

<https://public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2023-07137.pdf>

IHCA members – AHCA will have a live webinar tomorrow at 2PM – it will also be recorded for those that cannot join live.



**QSO-23-10-NH**

**March 30, 2023**

**Enhanced Enforcement for Infection  
Control Deficiencies and Quality  
Improvement Activities in Nursing  
Homes**

# What has changed?

**CMPs (Civil Money Penalty) will no longer apply for all F880 infection control citations.**

CMP would apply if the scope and severity was cited at a G or higher.

Enhanced enforcement (Directed POC and DDPNA), would only be enforced at Level 2 (D,E,&F) when **BOTH** F880-Infection Prevention & Control – and F887- COVID-19 Immunizations were cited.

CMS reduced the times to achieve substantial compliance. Compliance must be achieved in **30 days for a Level 2 (D, E, & F)** deficiency and **15 days for a Level 3 (G, H, & I) or 4 (J, K, L)** deficiency.

Citations in Both F880 and F887 (S/S Level 2 -- D,E,F) Same survey	Citation for F880 (S/S Level 3 – G,H,I)	Citation for F880 (S/S Level 4 – J,K,L)
Directed POC with a qualified consultant – QIO is a qualified consultant	Directed POC with the QIO or hiring an IC Consultant	Directed POC with the QIO or hiring an IC Consultant
DDPNA (Discretionary Denial of Payment for New Admissions) with 30 days to achieve substantial compliance	DDPNA (Discretionary Denial of Payment for New Admissions) with 15 days to achieve substantial compliance	DDPNA (Discretionary Denial of Payment for New Admissions) with 15 days to achieve substantial compliance
	CMP according to the CMP Analytical Tool with a 10% increase adjustment	CMP according to the CMP Analytical Tool with a 20% increase adjustment

# Recommended Actions

- Conduct a self check related to immunizations
  - SNF's F883, F887, F888
  - Assisted Living – Tag 406 and 407





# **Schizophrenia MDS Audits**

## **What you need to know NOW**

# Resource – on demand webinar

- <https://www.simpleltc.com/webinar-registration-new-cms-schizophrenia-audits/>



# QSource Resource

- C.auris video has been downloaded to DropBox

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/717vqluvtpu4ggc/Candida%20auris.mp4?dl=0>

# Question & Answer

Where do I get handouts from the IHCA Thursday call if I listen to it on demand.

Answer:

[www.ihca.org](http://www.ihca.org), click on COVID-19 tab, then Weekly Regulatory Webinars

(direct webpage link: <https://www.ihca.org/covid-19#section-5/>)



- ➔ COVID-19 Latest News, Guidance & Resources
- ➔ Vaccines
- ➔ Testing Guidance & Updates
  - Antigen Testing
- ➔ IDH Guidance & Resources
  - Weekly Webinars
- ➔ Payment & Reimbursement Resources

## Weekly Webinars

Weekly Regulatory Webinars

### Upcoming Webinar | April 6, 2023 from 12-1 p.m. EST

IHCA/INCAL staff host weekly webinars to answer your questions and provide guidance to all long term care providers across the state. IHCA/INCAL will connect you with the IDH and other key partners to keep you informed on current, immediate and important issues to our industry. Frequent guest speakers include key persons from the IDH, QSource, and Probari. If you miss the weekly update, you can access the meeting recordings and handouts which are posted below.

#### HOW TO JOIN THE WEBINAR

Microsoft Teams meeting



# Q & A



**THANK YOU!**

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