

April 15, 2020

Long Term Care Facility COVID-19 Follow-up

Websites

- [Wisconsin DHS LTCF website](#)
- [CDC LTCF website](#)
- [Return to work criteria for HCWs with confirmed or suspected COVID-19](#)
- [Wisconsin DHS additional guidance for infection prevention and control of COVID-19 \(revised\) in Long-Term Care Facilities and Assisted Living Facilities \(DHP Memo BCD 2020-16\)](#)
- [Wisconsin DHS Reporting, prevention and control of acute respiratory illness outbreaks in long-term care facilities \(DPH Memo BCD 2017-04\)](#)
- [Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene COVID-19 testing website](#)
- [Wisconsin DHS guidance on PPE](#)
- [Memos issued by Wisconsin DHS](#)

Testing

- LTCFs with a resident or staff person with symptoms of COVID-19 can collect samples and submit them for free testing at the [Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene](#).
 - Include a WSLH requisition form, found on page 6 of [DPH Memo BCD 2017-04](#)
 - Include a [patient information form](#)
 - Deliver directly or send clinical specimens, with cool packs, overnight to:
Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
2601 Agriculture Dr
Madison WI 53718
- Residents and staff members can also be tested by their own health care providers.

Reporting

- LTCFs that meet the [definition of an outbreak](#) should report the outbreak using PHMDC's [Long Term Care Facility Acute Respiratory Illness Outbreak Report Form](#). LTCFs do not need to call outside of business hours.
 - A respiratory disease outbreak in a LTCF is defined by DPH as three or more residents and/or staff from the same unit with illness onsets within 72 hours of each other and who have:
 - Pneumonia, or

- Acute respiratory infection, or
- Laboratory-confirmed viral or bacterial infection
- Anyone who is tested for COVID-19 should be reported to PHMDC either via [WEDSS](#) or by faxing a [4151 form](#) and the positive lab to PHMDC 608-266-4858. LTCFs do not need to call with reports of people being tested.
- LTCFs should report individuals with a positive COVID-19 test to PHMDC either via [WEDSS](#) or by faxing a [4151 form](#) and the positive lab to PHMDC 608-266-4858. LTCFs do not need to call with reports of positive cases.
- [Probable](#) cases should be reported to PHMDC either via [WEDSS](#) or by faxing a [4151 form](#). LTCFs do not need to call with reports of probable cases.
- COVID-19 related deaths [should be reported](#) to PHMDC either via [WEDSS](#) or by faxing a [4151 form](#) to PHMDC 608-266-4858. Hospitalizations will be reported by the hospitals.

Control

- LTCFs should implement the “Guidance for all Facilities” on [WI DHS’s website](#) now/before any cases are reported in the facility.
- If a case is reported in a resident or staff person, the LTCF should also follow the guidance on [CDC’s website](#).

Personal Protective Equipment

- The Wisconsin Department of Health Services has a [process for long-term care providers to request PPE](#). Please also email this form to DCEMS@CountyofDane.com

PHMDC Response

- PHMDC will assign a point person to each LTCF with a confirmed case of COVID-19 (cases include staff and/or residents)
 - The point person will be available to answer questions from the LTCF.
 - That point person will remain the point person until the LTCF has gone two weeks without a newly diagnosed confirmed or probable case. If another outbreak occurs in the same facility, efforts will be made to assign subsequent outbreaks to the same PHMDC point person.
 - Confirmed cases can be assigned to any PHN, not just the assigned point person, and each assigned PHN should communicate with the LTCF about details on their specific case.