COVID-19 Testing Resources for Nursing Homes

CDC has a variety of resources to support the vital role that nursing home personnel play during the COVID-19 pandemic. The links below provide information and resources about testing and specimen collection, ways to safely and accurately perform testing, the regulatory requirements under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA), and more.

**CDC Resources**

- Testing Guidance for Nursing Homes
- Considerations for Use of SARS-CoV-2 Antigen Testing in Nursing Homes
- Interim Guidance on Testing Healthcare Personnel for SARS-CoV-2
- Interim Guidance for Rapid Antigen Testing for SARS-CoV-2
- Interim Guidelines for Collecting, Handling, and Testing Clinical Specimens from Persons for COVID-19
- How to Report COVID-19 Laboratory Data
- Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 for Laboratories (includes information about point-of-care testing)
- Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA)
- Educational Products for Waived Testing
- CDC COVID-19 website

CDC’s Division of Laboratory Systems (DLS) convenes regular calls to provide information related to the nation’s clinical laboratory response to COVID-19. These calls take place every other Monday at 3:00 PM EDT. Nursing home personnel can submit questions about testing to CDC for consideration as a topic of discussion for a future call. Please direct any questions to DLSInquiries@cdc.gov. To receive updates about these calls, in addition to other laboratory updates, advisories, and alerts related to the COVID-19 response, opt in to receive updates from the CDC Laboratory Outreach Communication System (LOCS).

**Additional Resources**

- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) webpage
- CMS Brochure – How to Obtain a CLIA Certificate
- CMS COVID-19 FAQs on Medicare Fee-for-Service Billing
- CMS Guidance on SARS-CoV-2 Laboratory Testing
- CMS FAQs on SARS-CoV-2 Surveillance Testing
- CLIA Policy and Regulatory Revisions in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency
- Interim Final Rule re: Long-Term Care Facility Testing Requirements and Revised Survey Tool
- CMS FAQs about COVID-19 Testing at Skilled Nursing Facilities/ Nursing Homes
- CMS FAQ about Antigen Tests of Asymptomatics in Patient Care Settings
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) FAQs on Testing for SARS-CoV-2
- FDA COVID-19 Emergency Use Authorizations (EUAs) for Medical Devices
- FDA Medical Device Reporting (MDR) Information
- Fact Sheet: Guidance – Proposed Use of Point-of-Care (POC) Testing Platforms for SARS-CoV-2