

Nursing/Skilled Nursing Facilities Provider Call

Wednesday, July 21, 2021

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

1. Welcome

Beverly Clark

- Session is being recorded.
- All participants are muted, please keep phones muted during the call.
- Q&A session – online participants may ask question in the Q&A box,
Call in participants may submit questions to LTC@health.ok.gov
- New phone number 405.426.8200
- Fax Incidents/Form 283 to 1-866-239-7553 or email to 405.900.7574@xmedius.com.
- To request emails from Gov.Delivery.com email Diane Henry at DianeH@health.ok.gov
- Email LTC@health.ok.gov
- Website – <https://ltc.health.ok.gov> (LTC COVID-19 Resources)

2. General Updates

Janene Stewart

- Janene Stewart is the new director over the LTC Services
- COVID-19 Vaccination Survey was sent out by GovDelivery.com
 - Requesting information on the number of residents and staff vaccinated
 - Please take the time to fill it out and submit it back to us
 - Allows us to provide assistance and resources to you as needed
 - Deadline 5:00 p.m. today (7-21-21)
- Paula Terrel announced this is her last call with us as she is retiring at the end of the month – she wanted you to know it has been a great honor to work for the State of Oklahoma and to serve the residents of Oklahoma

3. Telligen – Updates

Micki Reyman

- Micki Reyman is a Quality Improvement Senior Facilitator who works with LTC with Quality Improvement
- Belinda Rogers is a Quality Improvement Senior Facilitator who also works with Telligen in the Community support area and works with LTC in reducing readmissions
- Telligen is the QIN-QIO for Oklahoma through a CMS contract
- Provides technical assistance with Quality Improvement resources and tools, especially to decrease infections in your residents and staff
- Training tools available may include QAPI resources, PDSA (Plan-Do-Study-Act), Performance Improvement projects, Root Cause Analysis (RCA)
- Also support efforts to improve COVID vaccinations for your residents and staff
- Assist LTC facilities to increase and improve their infection prevention processes, they do work in sync with Jeneene Kitz in HAI
- Assisted with onsite and virtual visits with nursing homes during the COVID outbreak

- NHSN subject matter expert is available for one-to-one technical assist or to answer NHSN questions
- If you have already signed up, there is a portal tab where you can view your COVID data trend graphs
- You can locate upcoming events on the webpages – There is an Office Hours planned related to the COVID vaccine
- Past events and webinars can also be located on the webpage for review
- You are invited to join the Oklahoma Community Connect Collaborative the third Tuesday of each month from 10-11 a.m.
- Root Cause Analysis (RCA) training every Tuesday morning
- Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) training every other Wednesday
- Telligen webpage is www.TelligenQINQIO.com
- Micki Reyman contact: mreyman@telligen.com office phone 405.810.3221
- Belinda Rogers contact: brogers@telligen.com office phone 405.627.9559

4. Monoclonal Antibodies

Elyce Holloway

- Elyce is the State Hospital Preparedness Program Coordinator for OSDH
- Clinical data confirms that monoclonal antibodies (mAb) do prevent hospitalizations and death
- There are 3 mAbs available for use under an EUA
 - Bamlanivimab/etesevimab combo therapy (funded through the U.S Government)
 - Is currently under a distribution pause – the EUA has not been revoked and is still authorized for use, however, at the time they are recommending the use of other mAbs because the resistance against several of the variants has shown to not be as effective as we need it to be
 - We do not have information on the Delta variant effectiveness but expect it very soon
 - Still have around 3000 in stock at this time
 - Cost – none (infusion supplies not included)
 - Regen-Cov (funded through U.S. Government)
 - Has shown effectiveness against all variants currently in the U.S.
 - 650 arrived in State within last 7 days (about 250 set aside for IHS)
 - Cost – none (infusion supplies not included)
 - Sotrovimab (commercially available)
 - Cost is \$2100 for 500 mg (single dose)
 - Do not have information regarding product stock in Oklahoma
- Medicare may cover the cost of the infusion supplies
- Private insurance may cover the costs
- There are options for uninsured individuals. Refer to HRSA Fact Sheet <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/uninsured-patient-covid-services-poster.pdf>
- There is good geographical coverage of availability in Oklahoma but may have some areas where there is none within a 50 mile radius
- mAb is not available to everyone, however at the age of 65 you are automatically eligible, for ages 12 through 65, it will be limited to high risk patients
- For information, eligibility, FAQs, and a Product Locator Tool on mAb you can go to the HHS COMBATCOVID webpage at <https://combatcovid.hhs.gov/>

- Elyce and the Regional Medical Response System teams will work with you to get mAb to your facility if you have the capability to provide infusions or will work with area hospitals to get the infusions made available to you
- Elyce Holloway (State HPP Coordinator) email: elyceh@health.ok.gov
- Oklahoma Regional Medical Response System webpage - <https://okrmrs.com/>
- For Direct Ordering of monoclonals through AmerisourceBergen (distributor of USG mAbs) <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/255d164d67834793b4ab549e160941e8>
- For Sotrovimab Information: <https://www.sotrovimab.com/>

5. Variant Testing Guidelines Updates

Kendra Dougherty

- We are now able to process the variant testing at the Oklahoma public health lab instead of submitting them to the CDC
- We are highly encouraging variant testing of vaccine breakthrough cases
- At the end of June we were able to open up variant testing to any positive specimen, not just breakthrough cases
- If you have multiple cases within a facility that are eligible for variant testing, you might want to prioritize a good representative sample of the positive cases or focus on the individuals that are vaccine breakthrough
- Acute Disease Services (ADS) no longer has to give approval for variant testing
- Options to submit samples to the public health lab:
 - Reference labs being used for confirmatory PCR tests (2 options)
 - Check with them to see if they are already forwarding their positive specimens to the public health lab for testing, they may already be sending your specimens in
 - Coordinate with them to have them forward your positive specimens to the public health lab to negate you having to collect a second specimen on anyone
 - County Health Departments (CHD) used as your courier
 - Contact them to determine a good time to drop off your specimens to be picked up by their courier
 - There is usually a set pick-up time for their courier
 - You may be able to coordinate variant testing for a staff member by having them set up an appointment at the CHD, they don't want them just showing up for a test
 - Coordinate a call-out courier who comes directly to your facility
 - Contact for coordination is Vanessa Grimaldo at vanessa.grimaldo@health.ok.gov
 - Include in the email details: the name of your facility, a contact person along with their phone number and email, physical address of the pick-up location, desired pick-up date between Monday and Thursday, a description of what is being picked up (example: COVID specimen)
- The public health lab will test the specimen for COVID, if the positive sample meets the quality standards it will be sent on to sequencing testing
- The initial COVID test is reported back to the submitter, so it can count as your confirmatory test if it is collected within 48 hours of the initial rapid antigen test

- Variant testing can take up to 2 weeks from the submission date, as more specimens are submitted, this time frame should decrease
- Variant testing is for surveillance purposes only so we can know what is going on throughout the state and with various subpopulations
- The variant testing at the public health lab is not CLIA approved, so you will not be able to obtain a hard copy of the results
- They are trying to work out a process to provide data at an aggregate level for the facilities so you know what is going on within your population
- All infection control recommendations remain the same regardless of the variant, such as 10 day isolation for confirmed positive cases and 14 day quarantine for close contact
- We will push out this information in a GovDelivery.com

Questions and Answers

Next call to be announced