



Oklahoma State Department of Health
Creating a State of Health

Long Term Care Services Provider Call
Wednesday, April 15th, 2020
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

MINUTES

1. Welcome ----- Mike Cook

- All calls are muted, session is being recorded
- 405.271.6868, LTC@health.ok.gov
- Hold questions for Q&A session

2. Infection Control Practices ----- Jeneene Kitz

MP3 recording: [This link will download the recording information.](#)

Slides: [Infection Control Guidance](#)

3. Reporting test results, Staff that test positive, Facility is unaware

- Reporting to OSDH-LTC relating to communicable disease outbreaks is done for residents **and** staff under the regulatory requirements.
- Local reporting to your city or county health department is done because there is a local task force of community nurses, surveyors, epidemiologists, and infectious diseases specialists, monitoring the progression of the disease in the facility and they need to be aware of the status of all test results.
- Those who are tested are asked if they work in a health care facility. It is our Acute Disease office's investigation of the COVID + subject that identifies the exposure to a facility based on when the COVID + staff member was at the facility. Our incident report is shared with Acute Disease, who compares that report to the report the facility provided directly to acute disease (which is also required), They also get information through PHIDO on test results. This information then guides the investigation conducted by our epidemiologists. They evaluate the information and determine whether the facility will be subsequently listed. We've listed some that we questioned but were instructed to list. The industry has pushed back and because of that the criteria for listing has been tightened.
- Staff are told not to work and to advise their employers. Separately, the task forces are advised of facility exposures and reach out to the facility to follow up.

4. License renewal for all long term care facility types:

- a governors declaration to suspend expirations is in the works.

5. FAQ questions, website

- Our FAQs and website are here:
[https://www.ok.gov/health/Protective Health/Long Term Care Service/LTC COVID-19 Resources/index.html](https://www.ok.gov/health/Protective%20Health/Long%20Term%20Care%20Service/LTC%20COVID-19%20Resources/index.html)

6. Are med aides included in the emergency ruling;

- Yes, see nar.health.ok.gov

7. Wearing masks at work. CDC guidance:

- This was discussed in our opening presentation. N95 respirators are worn in the COVID positive cohort of residents or where direct care is provided with uncertain respiratory illness. Surgical masks are worn by staff at all times.

8. Extending 60 day overnight visits for ICF/IID clients:

- This is a Health Care Authority Rule relating to reimbursement. The question was sent to the Health Care Authority, and remains pending.
- [317:30-5-126 Therapeutic leave and Hospital leave](#)

Therapeutic leave is any planned leave other than hospitalization that is for the benefit of the patient...(3) The Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID) may receive payment for a maximum of 60 days of therapeutic leave per calendar year for each recipient to reserve a bed. No more than 14 consecutive days of therapeutic leave may be claimed per absence. Recipients approved for ICF/IID on or after July 1 of the year will only be eligible for 30 days of therapeutic leave during the remainder of that year. No payment shall be made for hospital leave..."

9. Transfer and discharge guidance

- There is a waiver on transfer and discharge through CMS 1135 Blanket Waiver and Oklahoma suspension of law and rule in conflict with CMS waivers.
- On April 2, 2020, CMS and CDC released the "COVID-19 Long-Term Care Facility Guidance," which alerted facilities to actions they should take to prevent transmission of COVID-19. These actions include separating residents based on COVID-19 status (i.e., positive, negative, unknown/under observation). This may mean facilities will need to transfer residents within the facility, to another long-term care facility, or to other non-certified locations designated by the State
- See CMS Memo QSO-20-25-NH 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Long-Term Care Facility Transfer Scenarios, <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-25-nh.pdf>

10. Fit testing resources

- See below; the Department is executing a contract to provide a fit testing resource to facilities with COVID community transmission, and potentially more.

OSHA provided an exception that within a year if one has been fit-test, there is no need to be fit tested again annually for the current time being with this situation.

[On March 14, 2020, OSHA issued guidance for health care employers, which \(1\) temporarily waives the annual \(not initial\) fit-testing requirement for respirators, and \(2\) recommends discontinuing "quantitative" fit testing and instead using "qualitative" fit tests for health care workers during the COVID-19 outbreak.](#)

Respirator Fit Testing and Medical Clearance Resources					
Provider Name	Provider Location	Provider Phone	Respirator Fit Testing	Medical Clearance	Comments
National Occupational Health Services	Tulsa OK	(800) 900-6647	Yes	Yes	Brian Smith 918 557 9826, can do all

Berchtold Environmental	Oklahoma City OK	(405) 371-0436	Yes	Unknown	Left Message, no call back
Rhea Health	Oklahoma City OK	(405) 440-2095	Yes	Yes	Yes can do all
National Fit Testing Services	Nationwide	(941) 400-6722	Yes	Yes	Linda, can do all, 941 400 4713
Health Testing Solutions	Nationwide	7138683433-option 1	Yes	Yes	Yes can do all
PHS Mobile Health Solutions	Nationwide	(800) 833-3005	Yes	Yes	Karen, can do all, will send an email
CRG Laboratories	Oklahoma City OK	(405) 896-8481	Yes	Yes	Chrissy, can do both

11. Availability of test kits:

- There remain limits on test kits but those appear to be lessening.
- See: [CMS Increases Medicare Payment for High-Production Coronavirus Lab Tests](#) (4/15/20)
- See: [CMS COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) on Medicare Fee-for-Service \(FFS\) Billing](#)
- The following companies may be able to assist.

Lab	Location	Phone
Regional Medical Lab (RML)	https://www.rmlonline.com/site/sections/261	Tulsa (918)-744-2500
Diagnostic Laboratories of Oklahoma (DLO)	https://www.dlolab.com/dlo-locations	(405)608-6100
LabCorp	https://www.labcorp.com/labs-and-appointments	OKC (405)631-2009 Norman (405)579-1741 Midwest City (405)732-1131
IMMY Labs	https://www.immy.com/	Norman (405)-360-4669
Viracor Eurofins	www.Viracor-Eurofins.com	(800)305-5198
* Each telephone number represents a separate testing location.		

12. CMP money for tablets

- CMS is working on a “blanket” CMP Fund project that would enable State Agencies to approve projects that would provide nursing home residents with electronic devices/communicative technology. One example might be iPads, but there are other options available also. A simple application for these types of projects has been suggested and is under review. Once we receive the information from CMS we will review and identify if we are able to extend this application based on availability of funds.

13. Questions & Answers

14. Next Session April 22th, 2020 1:00 PM-2:30 PM ----- Mike Cook

15. Close