



Indiana
Department
of
Health

Long-term Care NEWSLETTER

LTC Newsletter 2023-19
Sept. 14, 2023

LTC Update:

- Adenosine Triphosphate (ATP) Luminometers Available for Facility Use
- Updated COVID-19 Vaccine

Adenosine Triphosphate (ATP) Luminometers Available for Facility Use

Please complete a short survey if you would like to receive ATP equipment for use in your long-term care facility. Please complete the [survey](#) by Oct. 15, to ensure you are on the distribution list.

Healthcare associated infections (HAIs) are a major public health issue. Proper environmental cleaning and disinfection in healthcare settings is crucial for reducing the risk of HAIs. Adenosine triphosphate (ATP) is the energy molecule found in all living cells and can be measured as a useful marker for bioburden. Evaluating cleaning practices with an ATP luminometer can help identify gaps of disinfection processes.

Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) is purchasing ATP luminometers and swabs (together called ATP equipment) for long-term care facilities using funds provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The long-term care (LTC) **facilities that would like to receive the ATP equipment must fill out the [survey](#) by Oct. 15**. The ATP equipment will be delivered directly to the facility.

Please gather the following information to answer the [survey](#):

- Full name of the facility
- Exact shipping address
- Contact person's name, phone number, and email address

- Number of beds in the facility
- Number of ATP equipment requested
 - It is recommended to request for one unit if the facility has fewer than 100 skilled nursing beds and two units if more 100 skilled nursing beds.
 - Facilities with high infection control needs such as MDRO unit/ vent unit/ high MDRO infections may request for two units even if they have fewer than 100 beds.
- Each facility must complete survey only once. If more than one survey is received, only the latest submission will be used in final planning.

Please note the following important things:

- Follow the instructions provided by the manufacturer for use of ATP equipment.
- Use the swabs to evaluate the cleanliness after environmental cleaning.
- Store the swabs at appropriate temperatures per the manufacturer guidance.
- Once the packet of swabs is open, finish using the swabs within the time frames recommended by the manufacturer.
- Further education on how and where to use the ATP equipment will be provided at a later date by the manufacturer and/or IDOH's HAI-AR (Healthcare Associated Infections-Antibiotic Resistance) team as needed.

Please email questions to Dr. Shireesha Vuppalanchi at svuppalanchi@health.in.gov.

Updated COVID-19 Vaccine

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends everyone 6 months and older get an [updated COVID-19 vaccine](#) to protect against the potentially serious outcomes of COVID-19 illness this fall and winter.

LTC facilities should procure the updated COVID-19 vaccine through their pharmacy partnerships and offer it to all the eligible residents. Please begin ordering vaccine immediately as updated COVID-19 vaccines from Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna will be available later this week.

Vaccination remains the best protection against COVID-19-related hospitalization and death. Vaccination also reduces the chance of suffering the effects of Long COVID, which can develop during or following acute infection and last for an extended duration. The CDC's recommendation is that anyone who has not received a COVID-19 vaccine in the past 2 months get an updated COVID-19 vaccine. Please review the CDC's [Interim Clinical Considerations for use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#) for detailed clinical recommendations in the coming days.

Preliminary COVID-19 vaccine recommendations [presented at the ACIP meeting](#) (slide 130) include:

- Everyone 5 years of age and older is recommended to receive 1 dose of an updated mRNA vaccine (Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech), regardless of prior vaccination history
- People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised should complete a 3-dose initial series with at least one dose of the updated COVID-19 vaccine, and may receive additional updated vaccine doses

The CDC's recommendation follows the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's vaccine [approval](#) earlier this week. Please note that the updated mRNA vaccines are each approved for individuals 12 years of age and older.