



Indiana
Department
of
Health

Long-term Care NEWSLETTER

LTC Newsletter 2022-11
Feb. 24, 2022

LTC Update:

- **IDOH COVID-19 Response Updates**
 - **Order Testing Supplies by March 30**
 - **Order PPE by May 30**
- **IDOH Guidance Updates**
 - **Clarification of New Admissions/Up to Date Status**
 - **New Antigen Testing Algorithm**

IDOH COVID-19 Response Updates

Testing supplies and PPE ordering through Langham and Frontline will be phasing out between now and the end of May.

Order Testing Supplies by March 30

Orders for testing supplies from Langham may continue to be placed through March 30. This includes rapid tests and PCR tests. Rapid tests are in limited supply, so facilities should be conservative in the amounts requested. Orders may be capped or partially filled based on available supply. PCR kits are more available, but only facilities that have a lab partner to process specimens should order PCR test kits.

**All testing supplies and shipping costs will continue to be FREE to LTC through the end of March.*

Reminder Information for ordering testing supplies: [INSTRUCTIONS](#) and [ORDER FORM](#)

Order PPE by May 30

PPE items for staff or visitors will be available for ordering through May 30 from Langham and Frontline. IDOH has an abundant supply of PPE available, so facilities may order any items that are available and as much as they need. We recommend that facilities order extra PPE to build up the facility's on-hand supplies.

**All PPE and shipping costs will continue to be FREE to LTC through the end of May.*

[IDOH Order Entry Portal Guide Instructions](#)

[IDOH Frontline Order Entry Portal Guide Instructions](#)

IDOH Guidance Updates

Due to the continual decrease of positive cases in LTC facilities and the decrease in community transmission, the use of eye protection in the Green Zone is now **optional**.

Starting this month, IDOH will not issue further updates to the LTC COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedures, including the Clinical Guidance, Infection Control Guidance, and the Regulatory Visitation and Activities Guidance. As CDC or CMS issues new guidance, we will distribute those updates through the LTC Newsletter and IDOH staff will continue to be available to answer questions and discuss changes on provider calls and webinars. The current [SOP](#) posted on the website, dated 2/9/22, will remain on the website until further notice.

Clarification of new admissions/up to date status:

If a new admission/readmission receives a booster dose upon admission to a facility or within 24 hours prior to admission, they can come out of TBP provided they had

- No close contact in the 10 days prior to admission and
- Asymptomatic and
- Tested negative at admission and 24 hours after admission and
- Not immunocompromised.

They should still undergo testing at 5-7 days like all new admissions.

New antigen testing algorithm

The CDC has published a new testing algorithm for LTC: [Considerations for Interpreting Antigen Test Results in Nursing Homes \(cdc.gov\)](#)