



Oregon

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NF-21-0051 – Provider Alert

Date: September 14, 2021

To: All Nursing Facility Providers

From: Nursing Facility Licensing Unit

Subject: **Review CMS Revised Guidance for COVID-19 Testing**
[QSO-20-38-NH](#)

Please review the recent CMS Guidance Memo **[QSO-20-38-NH](#) (REVISED 09/10/2021)**. Summarized as follows:

- CMS is committed to taking critical steps to ensure America's healthcare facilities continue to respond effectively to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Public Health Emergency (PHE).
- On August 25, 2020, CMS published an interim final rule with comment period (IFC). This rule establishes **Long-Term Care (LTC) Facility Testing Requirements for Staff and Residents**. Specifically, facilities are required to test residents and staff, including individuals providing services under arrangement and volunteers, for COVID-19 based on parameters set forth by the HHS Secretary. This memorandum provides guidance for facilities to meet the new requirements.
- *Revised COVID-19 staff testing is based on the facility's county level of community transmission instead of county test positivity rate. The frequency of testing has also been updated.*
- *Facilities now have two options to conduct outbreak testing, through either a contact tracing or broad-based testing approach.*

Review the full CMS Memo [QSO-20-38-NH by linking here](#).

If you have questions, please contact your licensing team:
Nursing Facility Providers: NF.licensing@dhsosha.state.or.us

Oregon Department of Human Services website: www.oregon.gov/DHS/