Testing of Staff and Residents

CMS QSO-20-38-NH - Effective September 2, 2020

South Dakota
Association of Healthcare Organizations

Mandatory Routine Testing for **staff** is based on your county COVID-19 positivity rate per the CMS report – which will be sent out to you every MONDAY from SD DOH OLC listserv.
Residents will be tested if they are symptomatic and/or if there is a new case of COVID in the facility.

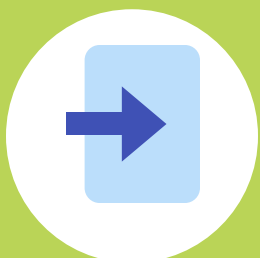| Activity	County Rate	Frequency
Low	Less than 5%	Once/month
Medium	5%-10%	Once/week
High	Over 10%	Twice/week

Types of Testing

- **Sentinel Testing** - Processed by the SD State Lab – 2 staff, 1 resident/week – continue this testing if you are not able to conduct the mandatory ROUTINE testing, or per DOH direction.
- **Point Prevalence Testing** - Processed by the SD State Lab – not an option at this time.
- **Routine Testing** – Mandatory for all "staff" – the cost and testing is your responsibility. Use the Point-of-Care Device or an offsite lab for this testing (NOT Antibody tests)

Documentation

- Medical order is required (F773)
- Document that testing was completed and the results of each staff test.
- Have procedures for addressing residents and staff who refuse testing or are unable to be tested.
- If you are NOT able to conduct the routine testing, you must document the reason (supplies, turn-around, personnel or testing issues, etc). and steps you took to mitigate.

Reporting

- If your facility uses the POC testing, a CLIA waiver is required. You must report both positive and negative results to the SD Disease Reporting Website.
- If your facility uses an offsite lab, the lab will report the results.
- Inform residents, their representatives and families of new or suspected cases by 5pm the next calendar day & weekly, including mitigating actions (F885)
- Weekly CDC/NHSN reporting (F884)

Enforcement

- Facilites that do not comply with the testing requirements in 483.80(h) will be cited for noncompliance at F886.
- Enforcement remedies will be imposed in accordance with Chapter 7 of the SOM
- Nursing facilities not in compliance with mandatory reporting of COVID data to the CDC and NHSN will also receive a CMP starting at $1,000 for the first occurrence and increasing by $500 for each subsequent occurrence.

Prioritization of Testing

- Facilities should prioritize individuals with signs and symptoms of COVID-19
- Staff who are symptomatic and refuse testing are prohibited from entering the building until the return to work criteria are met.
- For outbreak testing, all staff and residents should be tested, and all staff and residents that tested negative should be retested every 3-7 days until testing identifies no new cases for a period of at least 14 days since the most recent positive result.