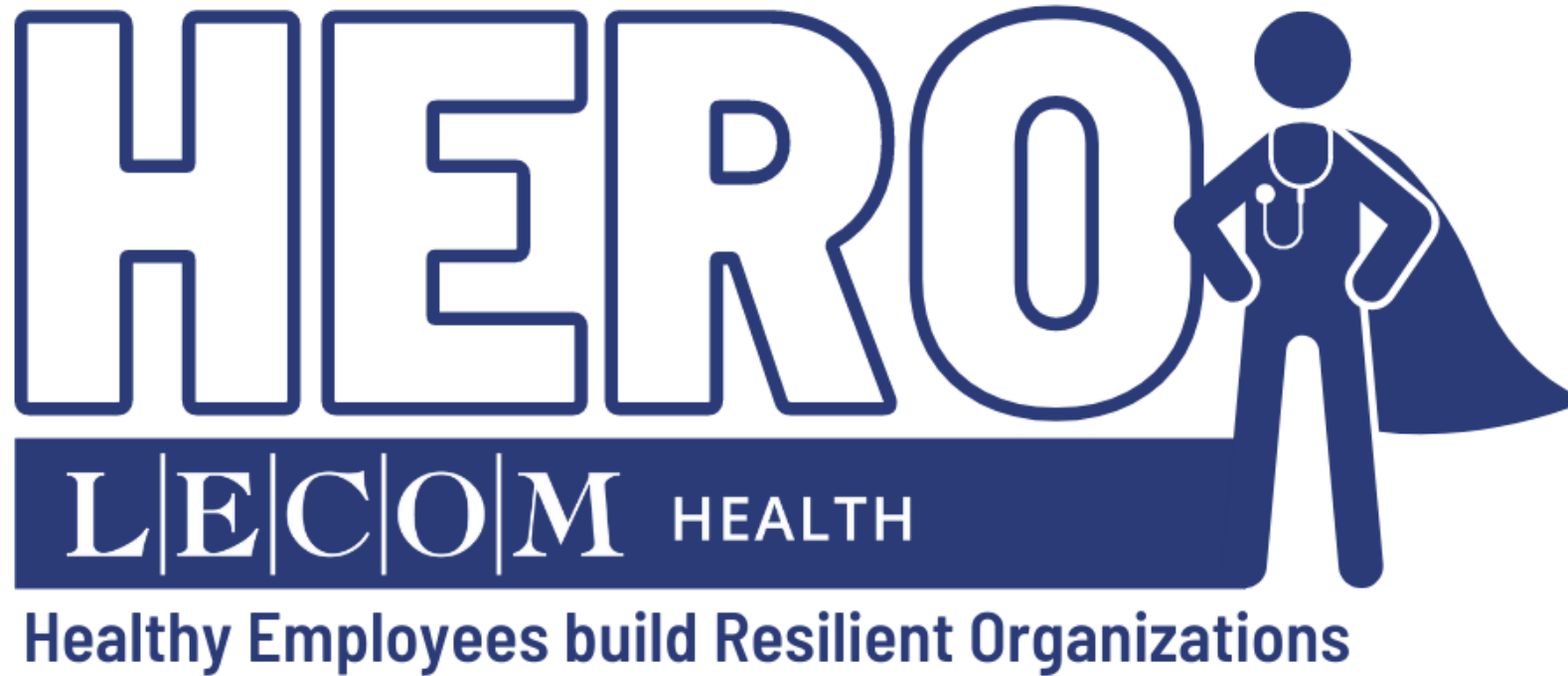


# Guideline Updates



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Katie Zboyovski, PharmD, MHSA, BS

# Discloser

Jim Caputo,  
has no relevant  
financial relationships  
with ineligible  
companies to  
disclose.

Katie Zboyovski,  
has no relevant  
financial relationships  
with ineligible  
companies to  
disclose.

# Needs Assessment

- Long-term care (LTC) facilities (including nursing homes, skilled nursing facilities, and assisted living facilities) are a healthcare setting of particular concern during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- LTC facility residents tend to have characteristics that put them at increased risk of severe illness or death due to COVID-19, including older age and presence of comorbid conditions.
- The health and safety of staff and residents – and the continued operations of a LTC facility – are dependent on effective infection prevention efforts.
  - (<https://asprtracie.hhs.gov/technical-resources/121/covid-19-long-termcare-resources/99>)

# Learning Objectives

- At the completion of the training, the participant will:
  1. Define the recommended HCP return to work plan
  2. Implement advised screening for staff, visitors, and residents
  3. Strategize on cohorting and problem-solve challenges related to exposures

# Guideline Sources

- Federal:
  - CMS
  - CDC
- State:
  - PA HAN
  - DOH
  - DHS
  - Local County Health Department



# Guideline Sources

CLIA

DHS

## Federal:

CMS

CDC

Life  
Safety

- CMS
  - QSO-20-38-NH Revised 09-23-2022 Interim Final Rule (IFC), CMS-3401-IFC LTC Facility Testing Requirements
  - QSO-23-02-ALL Revised Guidance for Staff Vaccination Requirements 10-26-2022
  - QSO-22-07 ALL Attachment A - LTC Only 10-26-2022

OSHA

# Guideline Sources

DHHS  
F888

## Federal:

- CDC
  - Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for HCP During the Covid-19 Pandemic CDC 09-23-2022
  - Interim Guidance for Managing HCP with SARS-CoV-2 Infection or Exposure to SARS-CoV-2 (CDC) 09-23-2022

HERO

LECOM HEALTH

# Guideline Sources

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DHS

DOH

## Pennsylvania:

- 2022-661-9-30-UPD-Work Restrictions for HCP with Exposure to Covid-19
- 2022-662-9-30-UPD- Return to Work for Healthcare Personnel with Confirmed or Suspected Covid-19
- 2022-663-10-4-UPD-IPC for Healthcare Settings during the COVID-19 Pandemic



# Guideline Sources

**663 - 471 = 192**

- **Pennsylvania**: PA HAN Documents: PA Health Alert Network (PA-HAN) PA Health Alert Network (PA-HAN) [<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/prep/PA-HAN/Pages/HAN.aspx>]
- First Covid-19 HAN: **471** – **01/09/20** – ADV – Outbreak of Pneumonia of Unknown Etiology (PUE) in Wuhan, China
- Most Recent Covid-19 HAN: **663** – **10/04/22** - UPD UPDATE: Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Settings during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

# Guideline Sources

- **Pennsylvania:**

- DHS-Issued Guidance: Guidance on COVID-19 for Personal Care Homes and Assisted Living Residences (Office of Long-Term Living (OLTL) [<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/coronavirus/Pages/OLTL-Interim-Guidance-for-PCH-ALR-ICF.aspx>]

- DHS-Issued Guidance: Office of Development Programs (ODP) COVID-19 Provider Resources (Intermediate Care Facilities) [<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/coronavirus/Pages/ODP-COVID19-Provider-Resources.aspx>]

- DOH-Issued Guidance:

## **When Are You Up to Date?**

- You are up to date with your COVID-19 vaccines if you have completed a COVID-19 vaccine primary series and received the most recent booster dose recommended for you by CDC

# Guideline Sources – Vaccination - Individual

## When Are You Up to Date?

- COVID-19 vaccine recommendations are based on three things:
  - Your age
  - The vaccine you first received, and
  - The length of time since your last dose
- People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised have different recommendations for COVID-19 vaccines

# Guideline Sources – Vaccination - Individual

## **When Are You Up to Date?**

- You are still up to date if you receive all COVID-19 vaccine doses recommended for you and then become ill with COVID-19. You do not need to be immediately revaccinated or receive an additional booster

# Guideline Sources Vaccination - Facility

**F888**



## When Are You Up to Date?

- Long-Term Care and Skilled Nursing Facility, QSO-23-02-ALL Revised Guidance for Staff Vaccination Requirements 10-26-2022; Attachment A, QSO 22-07-ALL
  - §483.80 Infection control

# Guideline Sources Vaccination - Facility

Long-Term Care and Skilled Nursing Facility  
Attachment A  
QSO 22-07-ALL

## When Are You Up to Date?

- §483.80(i) COVID-19 Vaccination of facility staff. The facility must develop and implement policies and procedures to ensure that all staff are fully vaccinated for COVID-19. For purposes of this section, staff are considered fully vaccinated if it has been 2 weeks or more since they completed a primary vaccination series for COVID-19
- The completion of a primary vaccination series for COVID-19 is defined here as the administration of a single-dose vaccine, or the administration of all required doses of a multi-dose vaccine

# Guideline Sources Vaccination - Facility

Long-Term Care and Skilled Nursing Facility  
Attachment A  
QSO 22-07-ALL

## When Are You Up to Date?

- (1) Regardless of clinical responsibility or resident contact, the policies and procedures must apply to the following facility staff, who provide any care, treatment, or other services for the facility and/or its residents:
  - (i) Facility employees;
  - (ii) Licensed practitioners;
  - (iii) Students, trainees, and volunteers; and
  - (iv) Individuals who provide care, treatment, or other services for the facility and/or its residents, under contract or by other arrangement



## Memorandum Summary

- 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.
- *Routine testing of asymptomatic staff is no longer recommended but may be performed at the discretion of the facility.*
- *Updated recommendations for testing individuals who have recovered from COVID-19.*

# Testing

| Testing Trigger  | Staff  | Residents   |
|--|--|---|
| Symptomatic individual identified  | Staff, regardless of vaccination status, with signs or symptoms must be tested.  | Residents, regardless of vaccination status, with signs or symptoms must be tested.   |
| Newly identified COVID-19 positive staff or resident in a facility that can identify close contacts          | Test all staff, regardless of vaccination status, that had a higher-risk exposure with a COVID-19 positive individual.   | Test all residents, regardless of vaccination status, that had close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual.                                       |
| Newly identified COVID-19 positive staff or resident in a facility that is unable to identify close contacts | Test all staff, regardless of vaccination status, facility-wide or at a group level if staff are assigned to a specific location where the new case occurred (e.g., unit, floor, or other specific area(s) of the facility). | Test all residents, regardless of vaccination status, facility-wide or at a group level (e.g., unit, floor, or other specific area(s) of the facility). |
| Routine testing  | <i>Not generally recommended</i>   | Not generally recommended   |



QSO-20-38-NH  
 DATE: **REVISED 09/23/2022**



# Guideline Sources - Return to Work

- 2022-661-9-30-UPD-Work Restrictions for HCP with Exposure to Covid-19
- 2022-662-9-30-UPD- Return to Work for Healthcare Personnel with Confirmed or Suspected Covid-19
- 2022-663-10-4-UPD-IPC for Healthcare Settings during the COVID-19 Pandemic

# Guideline Sources - Return to Work

**This guidance replaces PA-HAN-621** and includes changes made by CDC on September 23, 2022.

This guidance pertains only to the healthcare personnel and their need for work restriction. For guidance on isolation and quarantine in the community, please refer to PA-HAN-619 or its successor.

Major additions and edits in this version include:

- Revised work restriction guidance. In most circumstances, asymptomatic HCP with higher-risk exposures **do not** require work restriction. However, they should receive a series of three viral tests on day 1, day 3, and day 5 after the exposure (day 0). Additionally, they should wear well-fitting source control and monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 for 10 days.
- Updated recommendations for testing frequency to detect potential for variants with shorter incubation periods and to address the risk for false negative antigen tests in people without symptoms.
- Removed contingency and crisis strategies about earlier return to work for HCP with higher-risk exposures.

If you have additional questions about this guidance, please contact DOH at 1-877-PA-HEALTH (1-877-724-3258) or your local health department.

# Guideline Sources - Return to Work

**This guidance replaces PA-HAN-622** and includes changes made by CDC on September 23, 2022. Major additions and edits in this version include:

Requirements for testing healthcare personnel (HCP) with symptoms of COVID-19 have been updated. In summary:

- If using NAAT (molecular), a single negative test is sufficient in most circumstances.
- If using an antigen test, a negative result should be confirmed by either a negative NAAT (molecular) or second negative antigen test taken 48 hours after the first negative test.

The section on Strategies to Mitigate Healthcare Personnel Staffing Shortages has been condensed, with the expectation that facilities will refer to the CDC guidance for additional details.

If you have additional questions about this guidance or would benefit from discussion to support infection prevention and control decisions in your facility, please contact DOH at **1-877-PA- HEALTH (1-877-724- 3258)** or your local health department.

# Guideline Sources - Return to Work

This HAN Update provides comprehensive information regarding infection prevention and control for COVID-19 in healthcare settings based on changes made by CDC on September 23, 2022. Major additions and edits in this version include:

- Vaccination status is no longer used to inform source control, screening testing, or post-exposure recommendations
- Updated circumstances when source control is recommended
- In general, asymptomatic patients no longer require quarantine following close contact with someone with SARS-CoV-2 infection and HCP do not require work exclusion following a higher-risk exposure. However, they should receive a series of three viral tests for SARS-CoV-2, wear source control for 10 days following the exposure, and monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.
- Screening testing of asymptomatic healthcare personnel without a higher-risk exposure, including those in nursing homes, is at the discretion of the healthcare facility
- Long-term care facility specific Health Alerts (PA-HAN-626 and PA-HAN-627) are being archived; recommendations are now included in this update under Setting-Specific Considerations.

**This update replaces PA-HAN-624, PA-HAN-626, and PA-HAN-627. New content is written in red.** If you have additional questions about this guidance, please contact DOH at 1-877-PA-HEALTH (1-877-724-3258) or your local health department.

# References

- QSO-20-38-NH Revised 09-23-2022 Interim Final Rule (IFC), CMS-3401-IFC LTC Facility Testing Requirements
- QSO-20-39-NH Revised 03-10-2022
- QSO-20-39-NH Revised 09-23-2022 Nursing Home Visitation - COVID-19
- QSO-22-07 ALL Attachment A - LTC Only 10-26-2022
- QSO-22-15-NH & NLTC & LSC Update to Covid-19 Emergency Declaration Blanket Waivers for Specific Providers 08-29-2022
- QSO-22-17-ALL Surveys for compliance with Omnibus COVID-19 Health Care Staff 06-14-2022
- QSO-22-25-CLIA Enforcement Discretion for the Use of SARSCoV-2 Tests on Asymptomatic Individuals Outside of the Test's Instructions for Use 09-26-2022
- Updated CLIA POC Enforcement Discretion 10-07-2022

# References

- 2022-633-4-4-Updated Reporting Requirements for COVID-19 Test Results
- 2022-661-9-30-UPD-Work Restrictions for HCP with Exposure to Covid-19
- 2022-662-9-30-UPD- Return to Work for Healthcare Personnel with Confirmed or Suspected Covid-19
- 2022-663-10-4-UPD-IPC for Healthcare Settings during the COVID-19 Pandemic