State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health

SONIA Y. ANGELL, MD, MPH
State Public Health Officer & Director

GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor

AFL 20-60

July 17, 2020

TO: Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs)

SUBJECT: SNF Weekly Reporting of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Surveillance/Response-Driven Testing

AUTHORITY: Title 22 California Regulations (CCR) section 72537

Title 17 CCR section 2500

All Facilities Letter (AFL) Summary

This AFL requires SNFs to report COVID-19 surveillance/response-driven testing data to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) weekly via an online survey in the COVID-19 SNF Survey Hub. This reporting is to ensure that California has the information necessary to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Background

As a strategy for the SNF mitigation plan, CDPH recommends SNFs perform surveillance or response-driven testing of residents and healthcare personnel depending on the conditions in the facility. Surveillance testing is recommended for facilities without any positive COVID-19 cases, while response-driven testing is recommended for facilities with one or more positive COVID-19 case. Surveillance and response-driven testing are necessary to detect cases quickly, stop transmission, and implement effective infection prevention and control actions.

Weekly Reporting

Beginning July 20, 2020, facilities must report their weekly COVID-19 surveillance or response-driven testing data to CDPH via an online survey in the COVID-19 SNF Survey Hub. Each week, facilities will have a three-day window (Monday through Wednesday) to enter their surveillance or response-driven testing data.

For the first report, the three-day data entry window will begin Monday, July 20, 2020, 12:00 A.M. through Wednesday, July 22, 2020, 11:59 P.M., and will continue every Monday through Wednesday thereafter. Facilities will enter data for testing conducted within the previous 7-day period beginning Sunday, July 12, 2020, 12:00 A.M. through Saturday, July 18, 2020, 11:59 P.M., and every 7-day period thereafter.

To ensure consistent reporting across the state, CDPH is including a data dictionary (PDF). SNFs are encouraged to review the data dictionary (PDF) in its entirety before inputting data into the COVID-19 Weekly Testing Survey.

Accessing the COVID-19 Weekly Testing Survey

To access the survey, follow the instructions below:

1. Go to the COVID-19 SNF Survey Hub (**Google Chrome is recommended; it does not work in Internet Explorer**).
2. Login with your username and password (same login information used for the daily reporting survey). For first-time users:
   1. Username: Facility ID_SNF (e.g. 000000000_SNF)
   2. Temporary Password: xSnf#123 (you will then be prompted to create a new password)
3. On the COVID-19 SNF Surveys landing page, select the "Weekly Testing Survey" button.

Note: Some questions are conditional and will appear based on your answers, so please try to answer accurately.

For full details on how to login to the COVID-19 SNF Survey Hub, refer to the login instructions (PDF). If you do not know your Facility ID, use the CDPH Health Care Facility ID Lookup Tool.

For more information about surveillance and response-driven testing and CDPH SNF COVID-19 testing recommendations, refer to AFL 20-53. If you have any questions about ongoing testing and resources, please contact the Testing Taskforce at testing.taskforce@state.ca.gov.

If you have any questions about this AFL, please contact COVID-19SNFSURVEY@cdph.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original signed by Heidi W. Steinecker

Heidi W. Steinecker
Deputy Director

Resources

- COVID-19 SNF Survey Hub
- COVID-19 Weekly Testing Survey Data Dictionary (PDF)
- How to Login to the COVID-19 SNF Survey Hub (PDF)
- CDPH Health Care Facility ID Lookup Tool
- AFL 20-53

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