



NHSN

NATIONAL HEALTHCARE SAFETY NETWORK

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This email is intended for Facility and Group users of the Long-term Care Facility (LTCF) Component of NHSN.

On Thursday, April 15, 2021, an updated version of the National Healthcare Safety Network was released. Resources on the [NHSN LTCF COVID-19 Module website](#) have been updated to reflect the modifications to the application, with revised forms, instructions, FAQs and CSV templates. Please stay tuned for information about training information to be posted.

Point of Care (POC) Test Reporting Tool:

The following enhancements have been made.

- It is now possible to upload Point of Care test results via a comma-separated value (CSV) file format. An instructional video has been recorded and is undergoing closed captioning. Once the process is complete the video will be posted. Watch your email for information and check the training section of the [NHSN LTCF COVID-19 Module website](#) for posting.
- Deletion of visitors from the POC Test Result Reporting Tool is now possible in the case of error.
- The list of POC test devices has been expanded to include the following devices for reporting COVID-19 test results only:
 - Advaita RapCov Rapid COVID-19 Test
 - Cepheid LDT: Xpert Xpress SARA-CoV-2 DoD

- Cepheid Xpert Xpress SARS- CoV-2/FLu/RSV*
 - Lucira COVID-19 All-In-One Test Kit
 - Luminostics Clip COVID Rapid Antigen Test
 - Nirmidas MidaSpot COVID-19 Antibody Combo Detection Kit- SARS –
- CoV-2 IgM
- Nirmidas MidaSpot COVID-19 Antibody Combo Detection Kit- SARS –
- CoV-2 IgG
- Quidel QuickVue SARS Antigen Test

COVID-19 Pathways:

- Nomenclature has been changed for accessing the 5 pathways. From the left navigation menu > select COVID-19 > select “Pathway Data Reporting” (previously “daily entry”) from drop-down box to open the 5 pathways.

Resident Impact and Facility Capacity Pathway:

- Business rules have been added to auto-populate relevant data entry fields with a “0” when the value reported for Positive Tests is “0”
- Business rules have been added to auto-populate COVID-19 Deaths data entry field with a “0” when the value reported for Total Deaths is “0”

Staff and Personnel Impact Pathway:

- Business rules have been added to auto-populate relevant data entry fields with a “0” when the value reported for Positive Tests is “0”

Therapeutics Pathway:

- The order of therapeutic selections has changed.
- The word “alone” has been added to the single therapeutic “Bamlanivimab (Lilly)” selection to emphasize that the selection for “Bamlanivimab (Lilly)” does not include the combination “Bamlanivimab plus etesevimab (Lilly)”.
- Training slides for the Therapeutics Pathway are now available on the website [NHSN LTCF COVID-19 Module](#) under the heading Archived Trainings.

NEW Data Quality Alerts:

Two new guidance documents have been posted to the LTCF COVID-19 webpage, resources section:

- A new data quality alert feature was recently launched in the NHSN application that allows users to review potential data entry errors. Use the “How to Address COVID-19 Module Data Alerts” guidance document to correct or confirm data entries flagged by the NHSN application.
- The NHSN data quality alerts page is a helpful feature to improve data accuracy but it may not capture all data entry errors. The “Correcting COVID-19 Module Data” guidance document can help users correct entries that are not flagged by the NHSN application or do not appear on the NHSN alerts page.

Weekly NHSN COVID-19 Vaccination Data Modules:

Reminder to report cumulative data

- Each week, long-term care facilities should report the cumulative count of current healthcare personnel (HCP) and current residents who have ever been vaccinated for COVID-19. Do not limit reporting to just the number of individuals who were vaccinated in the reporting week.
- Additional educational tools to further describe cumulative vaccination data collection and reporting will be posted soon. In the meantime, training materials can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/ltc/weekly-covid-vac/index.html>

History of laboratory-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 is optional

- Question 3.4 on the data collection form (history of laboratory-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection) is optional. Please leave this question blank if you receive an error message when trying to save your data. Required questions to save data are identified by red asterisks and red boxes surrounding the questions.

Instructions for group (.csv) uploading have been updated

- With the addition of Janssen vaccine and unspecified vaccine reporting options, the instructions for group (.csv) uploading have been updated to include these additions and correct discrepancies and have been posted to the NHSN website.

Note: For best results, please remember when entering COVID-19 vaccination data in NHSN, CDC recommends that facilities use computer browser options such as Google Chrome and Microsoft Edge (instead of Internet Explorer).

For questions about any of these updates, please send an e-mail to the NHSN Helpdesk at NHSN@cdc.gov with the subject line identifying the topic, such as “POC Testing”, “LTCF COVID-19”, or “Long-term Care COVID Vaccination.”

Thank you for your partnership,

The NHSN LTCF Team

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