



To: Skilled Nursing Facilities
From: IEHP – Provider Relations
Date: May 12, 2020
Subject: **COVID-19: Notification of Confirmed COVID-19 or PUI**

CMS issued critical recommendations to state and local governments, as well as nursing homes, to address notification of confirmed COVID-19 or COVID-19 Person Under Investigation (PUI) cases.

IN SUMMARY

Guidance:

- Nursing homes are currently required to establish and maintain an infection prevention and control program designed to provide a safe, sanitary, and comfortable environment and to help prevent the development and transmission of communicable diseases and infections.
- This includes a system of surveillance designed to identify possible communicable diseases or infections before they can spread to other persons in the facility.

Reporting:

- Nursing homes should notify State or Local health department about residents or staff with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, residents with severe respiratory infection resulting in hospitalization or death, or ≥ 3 residents or staff with new-onset respiratory symptoms within 72 hours of each other.
- The required collection of this information will be used to support surveillance of COVID-19 locally and nationally, monitor trends in infection rates, and inform public health policies and actions.

Public Health Surveillance:

- Immediate access to any residents by any representative of the Secretary of State.
- The purpose of these visits will be for CDC (or its agents) to perform on-site infectious disease surveillance, testing of healthcare personnel and residents, or other related activities, as permitted under law.

The complete CMS Memo is posted on the IEHP Portal at:

www.iehp.org > For Providers > Plan Updates > Coronavirus (COVID-19) Advisory > CMS

As a reminder, all communications sent by IEHP can also be found on our Provider portal at:

www.iehp.org > For Providers > Plan Updates > Correspondence **or**

www.iehp.org > For Providers > Plan Updates > Coronavirus (COVID-19) Advisory.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the IEHP Provider Relations Team at (909) 890-2054.