

Please see the enclosed important information related to COVID-19 response.

At the request of the New Jersey Department of Health, Cooper University Health Care has put together a pilot testing plan for long term care facilities in southern NJ.

The purpose of the plan is to help facilities with 10 or less COVID+ patients to cohort appropriately and take infection control steps in order to save lives. New Jersey Department of Health has identified 17 facilities that fit the criteria. There are around 2,200 individuals in these facilities, including staff, that will be tested.

At the direction of the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH), Cooper University Health Care (Cooper) will deploy a broad-based COVID-19 testing program in 17 Southern New Jersey LTC facilities identified by NJDOH. The tests will occur over a period of three days.

Cooper will contact the facilities to get:

- Current Census
- Current Staff Roster
- Facility Contact and Medical Director Contact
- Face sheets for residents to pre-register them
- Staff Roster with name/DOB to coordinate pre-registration

Overview of the NJDOH approved plan is set forth below:

Objective: Test all residents and staff in 17 long-term care facilities identified by NJ DOH located in the Southern 7 counties (attached PDF identifies 16 facilities)

Total Tests: Approximately 2200

Timing: Commence on Wednesday 4/22/2020 and conclude Friday 4/24/2020

Test collection and registration plan:

- 17 Teams of RN/MA will be dispatched throughout the county in order to provide the testing for the Nursing Home staff and Residents
- Teams will be assigned geographically and by size of nursing home in order to maximize the efficiency of the teams
- Testing will be completed on those whose status is unknown and who have had a negative test in the past. Those who were a confirmed positive already will not be retested

Testing Orders/Results:

- Will be ordered through a physician protocol
- Results for residents to be reported back to the designed NH Medical Director
- Results for staff to be reported back to each staff member
- Aggregate results for each Nursing Home will be reported by Cooper for tested staff and residents to DOH
- Individual results will be sent for each resident to the Nursing Home's designated Medical Director
- Individual results will be sent to each Nursing Home staff member from Cooper directly to the employee

Testing Swabs:

- While Cooper personnel will collect the specimens, Lab Corp will provide all nasal testing swabs and will run all tests in their lab

Communications:

•Cooper will ensure that all LTC facilities are provided the current NJDOH guidance issued to assist long term and residential care facilities in response to the 2019 novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak. Given the congregate nature of long term care facilities (LTCF) and residents served (e.g., older adults often with underlying chronic medical conditions), this population is at an increased risk of serious illness when infected with COVID-19. LTCF have experience managing respiratory infections and outbreaks among residents and healthcare personnel (HCP1) and should apply those outbreak management principles, in addition to heightened measures within, to COVID-19. Please note this is a rapidly evolving situation, and as more data become available, this guidance may change. A PDF is attached which contains the current NJDOH guidance and links to those guidance documents can be found below:

https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID_LTC_Recommendations.pdf

https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/LINCS_Priority_Messaging_to_Post-acute_Care.pdf

https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/NcOv_LINCS_LTCF_Key%20Messages_03032020.108103.pdf

https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID_Outbreak_Management_Checklist.pdf

[https://www.nj.gov/health/legal/covid19/4-4-](https://www.nj.gov/health/legal/covid19/4-4-20%20Memo%20Nursing%20Home%20Communicable%20disease%20notification.pdf)

[20%20Memo%20Nursing%20Home%20Communicable%20disease%20notification.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/health/legal/covid19/4-4-20%20Memo%20Nursing%20Home%20Communicable%20disease%20notification.pdf)

•Any communication about this testing plan with the residents, staff, and/or families will be completed by NJDOH/Nursing home

Retesting Plan

Once all testing is concluded, Cooper will work with NJDOH staff to launch a re-testing plan for certain staff and residents

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