

UPDATE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)



Stay informed. Take precautions. Stay safe.

Dear Members,

To keep you informed about regulatory changes related to the recent increase in COVID-19 cases, we are forwarding a document issued on Wednesday, August 4, 2021 by the Department of Public Health as part of its ongoing efforts in addressing the COVID-19 public health emergency.

In the DPH guidance, which included four memos, the only one that directly addresses ALRs is the one entitled [Long-Term Care Surveillance Testing](#). Please note that, while long-term care facilities are now required to conduct weekly testing of all staff regardless of vaccination status, this practice is only recommended for assisted living residences. Previously, fully vaccinated individuals were not required to be included in the surveillance testing for those ALRs opting to participate; however, effective as of the week commencing on August 12, 2021, all baseline tests, which includes all staff, must be done for the first week's reporting, which is due August 20th. Click [here](#) to read the full guidance.

If you have any questions, please contact us at Mass-ALA@mass-ala.org.

**The information provided in this COVID 19 update is solely for general informational purposes to assist in understanding the evolving guidance regarding the current COVID 19 public health threat. It is not intended to be a primary public health or medical resource but is provided as a clearinghouse for or compilation of various guidance issued by official and related sources.*

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