

Dear Members,

COVID-19 case reporting to MA DPH through REDcap is no longer required. COVID-19 reporting requirements to EOEA are unchanged. Please read the messages from EOEA and DPH below for more details.

Good afternoon ALR colleagues.

This notification is being sent to inform you that the Massachusetts Legislature repealed Chapter 93 of the Acts of 2020. The action to repeal the reporting obligation to REDCap is no longer required effective Monday December 4, 2023. The full text of the notification from the MA Department of Public Health (DPH) is in the email below.

Please note that COVID reporting requirement to EOEA remains unchanged currently. EOEA will continue to monitor the COVID cases for awareness and prepares a report to the Secretary on a weekly basis. Until notified otherwise ALRs must continue to report Residents and Staff COVID cases utilizing the Dynamics incident reporting system for Resident cases and the Key Survey process for staff.

Thank you for your time and attention to the notice. If you have any questions, please send them to the <u>ALRHelp@mass.gov</u> email. I hope everyone enjoys the upcoming weekend.

Trisha Marchetti

Patricia C. Marchetti, Director Assisted Living Certification and Compliance Executive Office of Elder Affairs One Ashburton Place, 5th Floor Boston, MA 02108 Direct Tel- 617-222-7503 Main #: 617-727-7750

Dear Colleagues,

On December 4, 2023, the Massachusetts Legislature repealed Chapter 93 of the Acts of 2020, an emergency law that required reporting of COVID-19 testing, cases and deaths statewide and in state licensed elder care facilities, intermediate care for persons with an intellectual disability, and county and state correctional facilities.

The reporting obligations, including the requirement for long-term care facilities to submit daily all COVID cases and deaths through REDCap, have been rescinded as of yesterday, December 4, 2023. Consequently, facilities are no longer required to provide this information to the Department of Public Health, and the data will not be published going forward.

We want to ensure that all facilities are aware of these changes. The last day for publishing the daily reports will be tomorrow, December 6, 2023, when the cases and deaths reported on December 4, 2023, will be released. The Department anticipates announcing the release date for the final aggregative report in the near future.

Long-term care facilities must continue to report the first case in any infectious disease outbreak, including COVID-19, to the Department by submitting a case under the incident type "Epidemic/Disease" in the Health Care Facility Reporting System (HFCRS). Skilled nursing facilities must also still comply with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) requirements to report COVID-19 information to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) each week through its National Health Safety Network database.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact <u>Chapter93.ElderFacilities@mass.gov</u>.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health



www.mass-ala.org - massala@mass-ala.org - 781.622.5999

Mass-ALA | 465 Waverley Oaks Road, Suite 300, Waltham, MA 02452

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