



10/03/2020

To enhance efforts to keep COVID-19 from entering and spreading through nursing homes, facilities are required to test residents and staff based on parameters and a frequency set forth by the HHS Secretary. Facilities can meet the testing requirements through the use of rapid point-of-care (POC) diagnostic testing devices or through an arrangement with an offsite laboratory. Starting September of 2020, nursing homes are required to test staff as defined by CMS on a frequency basis ranging from once a month and up to twice a week. As stated in previous communications and notification, increase testing will assist in identifying asymptomatic individuals who have the potential to test positive.

In a recent case, an employee tested positive with the use of our BD Venitor Plus rapid machine; however, this was suspected to be false positive. Due to this individual not having any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 and no known exposure to a lab confirmed case of COVID-19; Clarksville Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center (CSN & RC) obtained a PCR test on this individual. Following the collection of the PCR test, this individual was required to exit the building immediately.

The PCR results for this individual was reported to CSN & RC by our Local Public Health Department on Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020, the PCR results were negative. Please note, this individual will continue to remain out of the building for a minimum of 10 days and self-isolate as outlined by the Iowa Dept. Of Public Health Essential Worker return to work protocol.

**Continuing Core Principles of COVID-19 Infection Prevention at our Center include:**

- Screening of all who enter the facility for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., temperature checks, questions or observations about signs or symptoms), and denial of entry of those with signs or symptoms.
- Hand hygiene (use of alcohol-based hand rub is preferred).
- Face covering or mask (covering mouth and nose).
- Social distancing at least six feet between persons.
- Instructional signage throughout the facility and proper visitor education on COVID19 signs and symptoms, infection control precautions, other applicable facility practices (e.g., use of face covering or mask, specified entries, exits and routes to designated areas, hand hygiene).
- Cleaning and disinfecting high frequency touched surfaces in the facility often, and designated visitation areas after each visit.
- Appropriate staff use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Effective cohorting of residents (e.g., separate areas dedicated COVID-19 care).
- Resident and staff testing conducted as required.

*Caring for Those You Care About,*

**Clarksville Skilled Nursing and Rehabilitation Center**

*Posted 10/06/2020*

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