



Long-Term Care Facility Task Force Monthly Updates

November 2021

In this Newsletter:

Long Term Care Facility Task Force Updates

- [Data Update](#)
- [Infection Control](#)
- [Testing Check-In](#)
- [Vaccination Check-In](#)
- [Monoclonal Antibody Update](#)
- [DMAS Update](#)
- [Strike Team Planning](#)

Communication Blasts

- [LCTF Vaccine Update](#)
 - [VDH Monoclonal Antibody Webinar](#)
 - [VDH Webinar on Understanding COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
-

[Long-Term Care Facility Meeting Updates](#)

Data Update (Presented by Virgie Fields and Team)

- There were 61 LTCF COVID-19 outbreaks reported in the past 30 days. The number of reported nursing home resident and staff cases have been declining since mid-September, although there has been a slight increase in reported resident cases in the last few weeks
- Please refer to slides 4 through 14 of the LCTF Task Force slide deck for specific data on LCTF COVID-19 Outbreaks

Infection Control (Presented by Dr. Abdelfattah and Team)

- The VDH LCTF infection control guidance has been updated regarding the outbreak response, to include considerations for PPE and Cohorting, Nursing homes, and COVID-19
 - Guidance can be found on slide 15 of the LTC Task Force slide deck

Testing Check-In (Presented by Dr. Forlano and Suzi Trotter)

- Existing HHS testing supplies managed by VDH will end in December 2021
- SNFs and ALFs will need to rely on either HHS provided testing supplies and/or their own purchasing
- VDH is currently planning to purchase more BinaxNow kits for backfilling SNF/ALFs for situations where they experience HHS delivery gaps for January, February, and March (pending supply availability)

Vaccination Check-In (Presented by Sumaia Kamal and Alexis Page)

- COVID-19 Booster Vaccine Recommendations: A COVID-19 booster dose is recommended for [certain populations](#) at least 6-months after completion of an mRNA primary series (Moderna and Pfizer) and recommended for all populations at least 2-months after completion of J&J primary dose. Note that all COVID-19 vaccines are interchangeable for booster doses across all three vaccine types (Pfizer, Moderna, and J&J)
- Pediatric 5–11-year-old Vaccine Access: As of Tuesday, November 2nd, the pediatric vaccine has been fully approved by the CDC/ACIP. If a long-term care facility has 5- to 11-year-old patients, the facility is advised to work with a pharmacy partner or the local health district to confirm access to the newly-approved pediatric vaccine

Monoclonal Antibody Update (Presented by Dr. Rossheim)

- Monoclonal Antibody (mAb) sites will continue to place orders with the VDH who, in turn, place orders with Amerisource Bergen
- Long-term care facilities can obtain mAbs by:
 - Directly from the pharmacy that serves the facility (e.g., Omnicare, ect.)
 - Registering to become a mAb site (to begin this process, please email mabs_requests@vdh.virginia.gov)

DMAS Update (Presented by Katie Hill)

- Implementing a 12.5% temporary rate increase for specific waiver services, behavioral health services, home health services, and other identified services for dates of service from July 1, 2021- June 20, 2022
- Issued a Request for Proposal to help with administering the \$1000 payment to agency-directed and consumer-directed personal care attendants. Payments will be made in early 2022

Strike Team Planning (Presented by Sarah Lineberger and Team)

- Federal Strike Team funding has been awarded, with the purpose of supporting LCTF's with COVID-19 response, building and maintaining IP infrastructure to support resident, retention of existing staff, and ensuring IPC and outbreak support is equitable

- Please find further guidance at the following link: [ELC Nursing Home & Long-term Facility Strike Team and Infrastructure Project Guidance \(cdc.gov\)](#)

Task Force Communication Blasts

LCTF Vaccine Updates

- The VDH has recently updated their [Toolkit for Long-Term Care Facilities to Sustain COVID-19 Vaccine Access](#)
- A COVID-19 staff vaccination toolkit has also been added to the [Long-Term Care Facility Task Force Website](#)
- The VDH has updated their Frequently Asked Questions on the [VDH website](#)

VDH Monoclonal Antibody Webinar November 10th 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

The webinar will cover:

- Updates on monoclonal antibody (mAb) therapy
- Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for REGEN-COV for post-exposure prophylaxis
- Clinical experience in the use of mAb therapy
- Reimbursement
- Q & A
- Registration is **REQUIRED**.

Follow link below:

<https://bit.ly/3k84iFn>

VDH Webinar on Understanding COVID-19 Vaccine November 3rd 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

- Approved for Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit / Continuing Education (CE) credit for physicians, nurses, and pharmacists
- This webinar is open to all healthcare professionals and all healthcare staff. Information to access the webinar and descriptions of the panelists are available [here](#). Please share this with members of your professional organizations

Have any important updates or information for the Virginia Department of Health's Long-Term Care Task Force? Email to Kyle Nickel (knickel@deloitte.com) or Brenden Rivenbark (brenden.rivenbark@virginia.vdh.gov).