

Subject: COVID-19 Update | CMS Pulls Back Memo Restricting Use of COVID Tests
Date: Friday, October 7, 2022 2:24:49 PM

To view this email as a web page, go [here](#).



CMS Pulls Back Memo Restricting Use of COVID Tests

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has rescinded [QSO-22-25-CLIA](#), which barred the use of SARS-CoV-2 tests outside of the FDA test's instructions for use. AHCA/NCAL highlighted the memo in a [recent blog post](#).

This comes after AHCA/NCAL strongly advocated that this memo should be rescinded as it limited the use of the BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ag Card being sent by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to symptomatic individuals.

This means the BinaxNOW COVID-19 Ag Card being sent to long term care providers from the HHS program **can continue to be used on both asymptomatic and symptomatic individuals.**

Specifically, [CMS indicates](#) that for the duration of the public health emergency, it will not cite facilities with a CLIA Certificate of Waiver when authorized SARS-CoV-2 molecular or antigen POC tests are performed on asymptomatic individuals outside of the test's authorization. In addition, CMS will not cite nonwaived facilities when modified authorized, cleared or approved SARS-CoV-2 molecular or antigen POC tests are performed in such manner without establishing performance specifications.

[READ MORE](#)

Additional Update

Food and Nutrition Services Regulatory Update: CMS added new regulatory language related to food and nutrition services as part of the Fiscal Year 2023 Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Prospective Payment System [Final Rule](#). AHCA/NCAL [previously communicated](#) to members about these regulatory changes. [Read More](#)

Please email COVID19@ahca.org for additional questions, or visit ahcancal.org/coronavirus for more information.



COVID-19 Dashboard

Explore the latest trends on cases, community spread and census.



Save Our Seniors

Policymakers must prioritize long term care residents and staff with ongoing support.



#GetVaccinated

Find resources and stories to encourage LTC staff and residents to get the COVID-19 vaccine.

This message contains confidential information and is intended only for AHCA/NCAL membership. Dissemination, distribution or copying the contents of this email beyond this group is strictly prohibited.



[AHCA](#) | [NCAL](#) | [Provider](#)

© 2022 American Health Care Association. All rights reserved.