



Visit our COVID-19 Page Here

Dear Member:

Summary of Today's Maine CDC LTC Call (4-22-20)

[Attached](#) please find a summary of today's Maine CDC long term care call today. It includes a snapshot of COVID-19 in long term care, what happens once CDC determines an outbreak, when to release someone from isolation and links to articles and CDC guidance.

MHCA Non-Essential Personnel FAQ and Emergency Use Example Policy

MHCA understands the complexities regarding staffing during the COVID-19 crisis. Unfortunately, the Division of Licensing and Certification cannot give permission for a person trained using the AHCA 8 hr. Temporary Nurse Aide program to be deemed a 'Certified Nurse's Aide.' This term is reserved for those individuals who have met the requirements to be placed on the CNA registry making these individual 'certified'.

An aide trained using the AHCA temporary nurse aide program would not, based on statute and Board of Nursing requirements meet that standard; however, that is not to say that a Maine facility could not utilize a staff person educated, deemed competent and properly supervised using this course in direct care areas such as Bathing, Oral Care, Grooming - Shaving and Nail Care, Dressing and Undressing, Infection Control and Prevention, Positioning, Moving, and Restorative Care, Nutrition and Elimination and/or Comfort Care and End of Life Care. MHCA does anticipate guidance on this matter from the Maine DHHS Division of Licensing and Certification this week. In the meantime, please refer to the FAQ and emergency example policy under MHCA created resources on our web page at <https://www.mehca.org/covid> if your facility is considering the use of such non-nursing personnel during this crisis.

Maine CDC Issues Health Alert with temporary changes to Notifiable Disease and Conditions

Today's Maine CDC Health Alert serves as notice for two temporary changes to the Notifiable Diseases and Conditions List:

- **SARS CoV-2** samples are no longer required to be submitted to Maine's Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL) for surveillance purposes.
 - Indeterminate samples can continue to be submitted for confirmation
 - Any facility that needs validation for an EUA test can continue to work with HETL for validation purposes
- **COVID-19**-associated deaths should be reported directly to Maine CDC within 24 hours of the death.
 - A COVID-19-associated death is defined as a death resulting from an illness that is clinically compatible with COVID-19 that is confirmed by an appropriate laboratory test. There should be no period of complete recovery between the illness and death. It is not necessary that COVID-19 be the primary cause of death.
 - COVID-19-associated deaths can be reported by phone to 1-800-821-5821 or by fax to 1-800-293-7534
 - Reports should include the patient's name, date of birth, and date of death

CMS COVID-19 Workforce Virtual Toolkit Released

CMS has released a collection of resources and tools for decision-makers managing healthcare workforce challenges in response to the COVID-19 emergency. Please refer to CDC's [Coronavirus Disease 2019](#) webpage for the most up-to-date clinical guidance on COVID-19 outbreak management. This [comprehensive toolkit](#) for individuals managing workforces during the COVID-19 pandemic provides helpful information on funding flexibilities, liability protections, and workforce training all in one place. For example, state and local communities will be able to access the COVID-19 Healthcare Workforce Toolkit to see how and where workforce waivers can be applied based on information from other areas.

Hospitality Maine provides list of lodging for HC workers

MHCA reached out to Hospitality Maine to see what lodging resources existed statewide specifically for health care workers. Please see the following link for a comprehensive list. Members should contact each property for specific details: [Comprehensive STATEWIDE List](#)

State launches FrontLine WarmLine to help Maine's HC workers

Yesterday, the State announced the creation of a new volunteer phone support service, the **FrontLine WarmLine** designed to help Maine health care workers and first responders manage the stress of serving on the front lines of the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. The line is staffed by volunteer professionals activated through Maine Responds, including licensed psychiatrists, psychologists, therapists, social workers, and nurse practitioners, who can help callers to deal with anxiety, irritability stress, poor sleep, grief or worry and, if needed, connect them with additional supports. The **FrontLine WarmLine** is available to clinicians and first responders from **8 am to 8 pm, 7 days a week by calling (207) 221-8196 or 866-367-4440**. Text capability will be added soon and the service will be available until further notice. We encourage you to download the [attached](#) flyer to post and/or distribute to your staff.

Thank you for all you do to care for your residents and staff.

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