

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Acting Commissioner




Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

HEALTHCARE QUALITY AND SAFETY BRANCH

BLAST FAX 2020-114A

TO: All Nursing Homes and Nursing Home Care Partners

FROM: Commissioner Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH 

CC: Deputy Commissioner Heather Aaron, MPH, LNHA
Adelita Orefice, MPM, JD, CHC, Chief of Staff
Barbara Cass, RN., Branch Chief, Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch
Donna Ortelle, Section Chief, Facility Licensing and Investigations Section

DATE: January 8, 2021

SUBJECT: Point Prevalence testing for Nursing Homes

Pursuant to Blast Fax 2020-114, the Department of Public Health has detected elevated rates of COVID-19 positive individuals in Connecticut's communities, along with a rise in COVID positive residents, and staff in nursing homes. During the holiday season, families may have visited with their loved ones in long-term care communities, which may place some residents in high-risk situations.

In consideration of the health and safety of all residents and staff in the long-term care setting, the Department is requiring all nursing homes, who are not conducting outbreak testing, to conduct point prevalence testing of all residents who have not tested positive for COVID-19 in the past ninety (90) days. Such residents shall be tested once between January 4 through January 18, 2021, utilizing the facility's current Care Partner.

As the state works to limit the spread of COVID-19, this testing and continued infection prevention and control measures may help control outbreaks in facilities.



Phone: (860) 509-7400 • Fax: (860) 509-7543
Telecommunications Relay Service 7-1-1
410 Capitol Avenue, P.O. Box 340308
Hartford, Connecticut 06134-0308
www.ct.gov/dph

Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer

