This video describes how to report positive COVID-19 test results for residents and staff in a long term care facility setting.
During this video, you will get an overview of the COVID-19 testing reporting requirements for residents or staff in long term care facilities, the options on where to report test results, how to access/sign up for these options, and resources with detailed tutorials on how to report test results in these options once access has been gained.
All positive COVID-19 test results, for both residents and staff, conducted at a long term care facility must be reported to IDPH within 24 hours of the results.

Facilities are required to report positive point of care rapid antigen tests and positive point of care PCR tests. - Facilities do not need to report PCR results processed by the State Hygienic Laboratory.

https://idph.iowa.gov/News/ArtMID/646/ArticleID/158449/COVID-19-Reporting-Transitions-to-IDPH-Website

As of February 16, 2022, changes have been made to the COVID-19 test reporting requirements for long term care facilities. Previously, all positive and negative tests were required to be reported. Now, only **positive** tests are required to be reported.

- It is no longer required for line lists of all resident and staff cases to be submitted to IDPH.
- It is no longer required for LTCs to notify IDPH of an outbreak (3 or more positive resident cases within a 14 day period). Instead, IDPH will be monitoring NHSN for outbreaks, and will be reaching out to facilities in outbreak to offer technical assistance.

As of February 16, 2022, changes have been made to the COVID-19 test reporting requirements for long term care facilities. Previously, all positive and negative tests were required to be reported. Now, only positive tests need to be reported to IDPH. It is no longer required for line lists of resident and staff cases to be submitted to IDPH. Lastly, it is no longer required to report an outbreak (defined as 3 or more resident cases in a 14 day period) to IDPH. Instead, IDPH will be monitoring NHSN for facilities who meet the outbreak definition, and will be reaching out to facilities to offer technical assistance.
CMS reporting requirements will still be maintained by long term care facilities, as long as CMS requires them.
There are 2 options for LTCs to report their COVID-19 test results to IDPH. One is through the database system known as REDCap, and the other is through the National Healthcare Safety Network.
NHSN is a healthcare associated infections (HAI) tracking system created and maintained by the CDC. Facilities eligible to report data to NHSN’s LTCF COVID-19 Module include: nursing homes/skilled nursing, long-term care for the developmentally disabled, and assisted living facilities. Facility point of care rapid antigen and point of care PCRs can be reported in NHSN’s Point of Care reporting tool.

NHSN is a healthcare associated infections (HAI) tracking system created and maintained by the CDC. Facility point of care rapid antigen and PCRs can be reported in either NHSN or REDCap, they do not need to be entered in to both. Facilities eligible to report data in to NHSN’s LTCF COVID-19 Module include nursing homes/skilled nursing, long-term care for the developmentally disabled, and assisted living facilities.
To enroll in the NHSN COVID-19 module, please complete the 5 step enrollment process at this link:

https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/ltc/enroll.html

Note that this enrollment may take some time, and your facility can sign up for and report test results to the IDPH REDCap while waiting to complete the NHSN enrollment.
REDCap is an online database system that allows users to create their own databases. IDPH has created a database in REDCap that allows facilities to report their point of care rapid antigen tests and point of care PCR tests. These results will then automatically be uploaded to our Iowa Disease Surveillance System (IDSS).
To enroll in REDCap to report COVID-19 test results, please click on the link (which can be found in the video description box below this video) and fill out the form. Please contact John Satre at john.satre@idph.iowa.gov (515-229-0417) if you have any questions or concerns during the sign up process. A detailed video tutorial on how to access and input test results in to the REDCap database will be listed at the end of this video.
When entering your test results in to REDCap or NHSN, take care to correctly indicate whether the results are positive or negative, otherwise you will have to go back in to the system and correct them if the results are marked incorrectly. We also recommend having 2 people at your facility registered with NHSN or REDCap to report positive test results, that way if one person is unavailable, there will be another person who can enter test results for your facility.
The REDCap and NHSN video tutorial provides a step by step guide on how to enter your test results in to REDCap or NHSN. The NHSN LTCF COVID-19 Module information page provides general information for facilities on reporting COVID-19 test results, as well as additional video trainings related to accessing and entering information into the COVID-19 module. Hyperlinks for these resources can be found in the video description box below this video.
For further questions or technical assistance regarding entering your test results or accessing REDCap or NHSN, you can reach out to the regional nurse clinician covering your area. The map on this slide displays the specific point-of-contact based on the county where your facility is located. You can contact your regional nurse clinician directly or send an email to the IDPH HAI team at: hai-ar@idph.iowa.gov.
As a reminder, the Iowa Department of Public Health is not a regulatory agency. Instead the HAI Team at the Iowa Department of Public Health is here to provide you with technical assistance.

Regulatory questions should be directed to the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals contact for your area. A map of the DIA coverage areas is included on this slide and the contact information for the corresponding program manager and bureau chief can be found at the URL displayed.

This concludes this video summarizing reporting COVID-19 test results for long term care facilities.