

Which Guidance Should I Follow?

Document	Assisted Living and Other Residential Care Facilities	Nursing Homes
CMS QSO 20-38-NH Revised 9/23/22	Routine testing is no longer recommended; testing is done when 1) COVID-19 symptoms are present, 2) following exposure to COVID-19, and 3) on admission to the facility when Community Transmission levels are high, regardless of vaccination status . **Unlicensed assisted living facilities, substance use disorder residential facilities, adult foster care facilities licensed for 12 individuals or less, and independent living facilities are not subject to this Order.	
CMS QSO 20-39-NH Revised 9/23/22	No longer held to these requirements Decisions around masking are driven by facility risk assessment based on Community Levels (see below).	Use of source control for everyone recommended when Community Transmission is high. Masking is guided by risk for exposure, if they have had a high-risk exposure, & personal preference. (See “Implement Source Control Measures” in CDC Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the COVID-19 Pandemic .)
CMS QSO 22-25-CLIA	Continues to allow for the use of COVID-19 antigen test kits (rapid tests) in screening testing or following exposure when the person is asymptomatic, which is outside of the manufacturer’s instructions for use. Updated CLIA SARS-CoV-2 Molecular and Antigen Point of Care Test Enforcement (cms.gov)	
MDHHS October 12, 2021 - Testing in Skilled Nursing Facilities, Homes for the Aged, and Adult Foster Care Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Links MDHHS and CMS COVID testing requirements MCL 333.2253 • Requires facilities that are subject to this order to follow the testing standards set by QSO-20-38-NH. • Adult foster care facilities licensed for 13 individuals or more, homes for the aged facilities, and nursing homes are subject to this Order 	
MDHHS October 4, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amends Epidemic Order MCL 333.2253 Requirements for Residential Care Facilities by differentiating Nursing Homes from other residential care facilities. • Original Order linked MDHHS requirements for screenings, visitation, and masking to CMS QSO-20-39-NH. • Requires that Nursing Homes continue to reference CMS QSO-20-39-NH which directs Nursing Homes to utilize Community Transmission Levels when deciding on mitigation strategies, such as mask use. • Removes Assisted Living and other congregate settings from the requirement to follow QSO-20-39-NH driven by CDC update (see below). 	
CDC Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the COVID-19 Pandemic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revisions to QSO-20-38-NH, QSO-20-39-NH, and Epidemic Orders were informed by this update. • Provides guidance to all health care settings and the “setting specific considerations” above those recommendations for Nursing Homes. • Differentiates Non-nursing home settings from Nursing Homes. • Vaccination status is no longer a factor used to determine testing, masking, or post-exposures practices. • No longer recommends screening testing of asymptomatic persons. • No longer recommends post-exposure quarantine of asymptomatic residents or staff. 	
CDC Community Transmission Map	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No longer drives staff testing. • Utilized to determine the need to test newly admitted residents. • No longer utilized to determine other mitigation strategies (masking, visitation) in these settings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No longer drives staff testing. • Utilized to determine the need to test newly admitted residents. • Used to guide screening, masking, and visitation practices in Nursing Homes only.

CDC [Community Levels](#)

Used to guide mitigation strategies, such as mask wearing, in non-nursing home residential settings.

Nursing homes should continue to utilize **Community Transmission Levels** to guide their mitigation strategies.