Welcome!

• All lines are muted, so please ask your questions in Q&A
• For technical issues, chat to the ‘Technical Support’ Panelist
• Please actively participate in polling questions that will pop up on the lower righthand side of your screen

We will get started shortly!
Amy Ward, MS, BSN, RN, CIC

INFECTION PREVENTION SPECIALIST

Amy is a registered nurse with a diverse background in acute care nursing, microbiology, epidemiology and infection control. She is passionate about leading and mentoring new and future infection preventionists in their career paths. Over the past several years, her focused efforts in C. difficile infection reduction lead to significant local improvements in patient outcomes, antimicrobial use, and C. difficile rates.

Amy enjoys spending time with family. She loves all the time she can get outdoors cycling and running.

Contact:
Amy.Ward@AlliantHealth.org
Marilee Johnson

INFECTION PREVENTION TECHNICAL ADVISOR

BS Medical Technology UNC-Chapel Hill, MT (ASCP)
MBA, Meredith College, Raleigh, NC

• WakeMed Health & Hospitals, Infection Prevention Team, Public Health Epidemiologist and Microbiology Laboratory Technologist
• NC Division of Public Health - NC One & Only Campaign and Antibiotic Stewardship Programs.
• Alliant Quality - C difficile Reporting & Reduction Initiative for Georgia & NC nursing homes, 11th & 12th Scope of Work.
• Infection Prevention Training through NC SPICE (North Carolina Statewide Program in Infection Control & Epidemiology) and the CDC’s Nursing Home Infection Preventionist Training Course.
• Association of Professionals in Infection Control & Epidemiology (APIC).

Growing herbs, flowers, and a few veggies, reading, hiking,

marilee.johnson@allianthealth.org 919.695.8331
Guest Panelists

Andrew Turner
User Support Specialist II
CACI, subcontractor to Leidos
Contractor for the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) NCEZID, Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion (DHQP)
National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Disease Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Robert Maxwell
User Support Specialist II
CACI, subcontractor to Leidos | Contractor for the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) NCEZID, Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion (DHQP)
National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Disease Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Disclaimer

• I do not work for NHSN, SAMS, CDC, or CMS.
• I am not the SAMS or NHSN help desk
• I am the technical advisor for infection prevention for Alliant Quality, the QIO for Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, North Carolina and Tennessee
**Goals**

- Address common problems with NHSN data reporting.
- Answer technical questions for reporting data.
- Review updates to NHSN reporting and COVID-19 Testing.
COVID-19 New Cases: General Population & Nursing Homes

New Case Trends: General Population & Nursing Homes Residents (7-day)

Data Through: Nursing Home - Dec 13, 2020; Community - Dec 27, 2020 Sources: NHSN and Johns Hopkins University
Notes: Nursing Home data shown passed NHSN's Quality Assurance check.

https://www.ahcanecal.org/Data-and-Research/Pages/default.aspx date accessed 1/12/21
Total Confirmed Cases
Resident 497,693
Staff 425,357

Deaths
Resident 97,106
Staff 1,292

Summary of Data Quality Issues

Data is still missing

And Not Passing Quality Assurance

NHSN Data on CMS website as of December 27th, 2020
Interpreting COVID-19 Antigen Test


Revised Guidance for Antigen Tests

As of January 7, 2021

- Revised guidance on when to perform confirmatory tests. In general, asymptomatic people who test antigen positive should have a confirmatory test performed. Symptomatic people who test antigen negative should have a confirmatory test performed.
- Confirmatory test should be performed with nucleic acid amplifications tests (NAAT) such as reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR).
- Expanded the intended audience to include all long-term care facilities, including nursing homes.
- Added links to Point of Care Testing and Testing and Management Considerations for Nursing Home Residents with Acute Respiratory Illness Symptoms when SARS-CoV-2 and Influenza Viruses are Co-circulating

Vaccinations in Nursing Homes

• As of January 12th, 9,327,138 have received the 1st Dose in the US, of those 951,774 were in nursing homes

• Keep encouraging your staff and residents!

https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/ltc/weekly-covid-vac/index.html
https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#vaccinations
Point-Of-Care-Test Result Reporting

Nursing Homes **shall** report data for all testing completed, for each individual tested, within 24 hours of results being known or determined, on a daily basis to the appropriate state or local public health department based on the individual’s residence.

The NHSN POCT Tool is the **preferred** option.

**Jan 12**

Updated training [https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/covid19/ltcf/poc-testing-training-508.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/covid19/ltcf/poc-testing-training-508.pdf)


How to report COVID-19 POCT Lab Data


Point-Of-Care Test Result Reporting

FACADM will add Staff rights to each user

Shop Talk Shorts YouTube Channel

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLXWmxni-xNHspWHhLLIrqcLGlzXZPljIF
Polling-Please let us know a few things…

1. What state are you from?
2. Does someone have access at your facility?
3. Do you or someone at your facility have received Level 3 Access (SAMS GRID CARD)?
4. Does your facility have more than one NHSN user?

If you answered ‘No’ to any of these questions please contact us!
Polling Question

What NHSN topic would you like to discuss today?
• Data Integrity & Passing Quality Assurance
• Adding Users/ and steps to gain access to NHSN (level 3)
• How to change your email in NHSN & SAMS
Refresher & Recap
Data Quality Assurance Review
Review Your Data on data.cms.gov

Data Missing or Not Passing QA... is *Not* Counted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<td>N</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Total cases instead of new cases**
- **Count error?**
- **2 in a row > 10**
- **Late submission**
- **>3 repeated numbers**

Start with your Daily Calendar in NHSN

Export your CSV file each week to verify your data
NHSN Checkpoints:
Export CSV file and Review for Errors

Is data plausible based on census?

“Cumulative total” died rather than “new” cases were submitted each day.
Edit & Upload Your COVID-19 Data

It's magic, really!

https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/ltc/covid19/index.html >
Contact Information:

- CMS Data FAQs:

- Quality Assurance Rules:

Email NH_COVID_Data@cms.hhs.gov
& nhsn@cdc.gov to remove the “flags” once you have corrected and verified your data.
Did *Your* Data Pass QA in December?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Unique facilities# NOT Passing QA &gt;1 week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Verify your data in NHSN, then email to NH_COVID_Data@cms.hhs.gov and nhsn@cdc.gov and request your flags to be removed.

Instructions:

1. **Download** your data each week in NHSN to double check for errors

2. 2 data submissions in a row >10 [20,15]

3. 3 data submissions that are consecutive or sequential [2,2,2][1,2,3,]

TIP: Data is uploaded to the CMS website on Sunday night….and available to view 11 days later on Thursday.
Change Your Email in NHSN & SAMS
Step 1: Change Your Email in NHSN

- At the NHSN home page, go to Users> Find>Find
- Click on your name, Edit, change your email address, then click Save.

Order is important. You must change in NHSN first.

Step 2 Change Your Email in SAMS

Go to https://sams.cdc.gov > My Profile > Change my email > Submit

![Warning Symbol]

You will NOT be able to access NHSN until you complete the change in SAMS and both email addresses are the exact same.

(takes 2 days) Follow the prompts sent to your new email inbox.
Add Users/ How to complete the SAMS Application

We want YOU to add users to your NHSN account!
Add Users

• Users>Find.

Don’t use a generic email address!

Hint: Check users. Users>Find, then find again.
Add Users and Rights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rights</th>
<th>Long Term Care Facility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrator</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Rights</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analyze Data</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add, Edit, Delete</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>View Data</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff - Add, Edit, Delete</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff - View</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Customize Rights

- Effective Rights
- Save
- Back
The new user will **immediately** receive an email from NHSN@cdc.gov

Date: Thu, Jan 7, 2021, 11:33 AM  
Subject: Welcome to NHSN!  
To:  
Cc:

Welcome to the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN)!

You have been added as the type of user indicated for the following facility or Group:

Facility or Group Name: [redacted] Farm Living and Rehabilitation

User Type:

*In order to participate as an NHSN user, you must agree to follow the rules of behavior for safe*  
Click on the URL below to read and indicate your agreement to abide by the rules.  
[https://nhsn.cdc.gov/RegistrationForm/User.jsp?user_email=nhsn@cdc.gov](https://nhsn.cdc.gov/RegistrationForm/User.jsp?user_email=nhsn@cdc.gov)
New User: Agree to Rules of Behavior and Submit Training Date

National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN)

Facility/Group User & Administrator Rules of Behavior

In order to participate in the NHSN, you must read and agree to abide by the following rules for safeguarding the system's security. Scroll through the document below and click on the Agree or Do Not Agree button. To print a copy of the rules, click on the Print button.

INTRODUCTION
The National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) is a surveillance system that is developed, maintained, and used by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). NHSN enables participating healthcare facilities to submit and analyze data on patient and healthcare worker safety, such as surgical site infections, antimicrobial use and resistance, bloodstream infections, blood safety incidents, dialysis incidents, and healthcare worker vaccinations. It provides analysis tools that enable NHSN Users to generate a variety of reports, many of which use data aggregated by NHSN for benchmarking purposes. Healthcare facilities, state and local health departments, and other NHSN Users can use these resources to identify prevention and quality improvement opportunities and track progress in efforts to prevent adverse healthcare events and enhance patient and healthcare worker safety. NHSN also provides links to best practices, guidelines, and lessons learned.

NHSN collects, processes, stores, and makes accessible to authorized users a large volume of sensitive patient and healthcare facility data. These data must be protected from unauthorized access, disclosure, or modification in accordance with a comprehensive set of confidentiality, privacy, and security requirements.
New User – Confirmation email

From: <nhsn@cdc.gov>
Date: Thu, Jan 7, 2021, 11:46 AM
Subject: NHSN Rules of Behavior Submitted
To: <blacked out>

Thank you for reviewing and accepting the NHSN Rules of Behavior.

In order to begin using NHSN Reporting, you must first complete Secure Access Management Services (SAMS) registration and identity proofing. SAMS is a web portal designed to provide centralized access to public health information and computer applications operated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

You will receive an invitation email from SAMS with instructions regarding registration and identity proofing, which is required by law due to the nature of the data you will be accessing.

For the further information regarding SAMS identity proofing, please visit http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/sams/about-sams.html. Please note that you must receive your SAMS grid card, which will be delivered to your home address via U.S. mail, before you may access NHSN via SAMS.
Hello Susan Jane Doe,

You have been invited to register with the SAMS Public Health Information System (PHIS) Partner Portal. Your registration was requested for you based on your specific role in public health. This invitation is for the following CDC computer application(s):

- **National Healthcare Safety Network: NHSN Reporting**

A registration account has already been created for you. A username and password are provided below. This invitation is valid for 30 days.

To register with the SAMS Partner Portal, please click the following link or cut and paste it into your browser:

https://im.cdc.gov/iam/im/SAMS3/ui/index.jsp?task.tag=SAMSRegistration

When prompted, please enter:

- **Your Email/User Name:** Susie24676@gmail.com
- **Temporary Password:** u9Re=8(Y

and click the Login button.

***Note:** In order to access the SAMS Partner Portal, your browser **must** be configured to use TLS 1.2 encryption. If your computer is not configured for TLS, or if you are unsure, please contact your local IT System Administrator for assistance.
Look For This Email In Your Inbox

• Print this email and save in a secure place
• Do not delete the email

(The Fine Print: You will be in big trouble if you delete this email.)

From: sams-no-reply@cdc.gov <sams-no-reply@cdc.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 2020 9:36 AM
To: johnson.marilee@allianthealth.org
Subject: CDC: SAMS Partner Portal - Identity Verification Request Form

Hello Marilee Johnson,

A request has been made on your behalf to provide you with additional application access based upon your specific role in public health. Before you can begin using these new application(s), U.S. law requires that CDC conduct some additional identity verification steps over and above any that you may have already completed.

*We apologize for any inconvenience you may incur and ask for your understanding and cooperation in our efforts to protect people's private data and prevent information misuse. Please be assured that CDC and its Programs have made every effort to keep this necessary process as simple and non-intrusive as possible. Also be assured that your identity information will only be used to help determine your suitability for access and that this data will not be shared outside of CDC programs.

To complete identity verification, please print the form attached to this email message and follow the instructions provided below. The required steps are as follows:
Check Your Profile in SAMS

Legal name and home address
(not your work address)
Complete Your SAMS Application

• Print out the Identity Verification Form
• Locate two (2) forms of approved identity
• Get the form notarized by any notary such as your bank or UPS

Step 3b: Complete and Submit Identity Proofing Verification

From the ‘Identity Verification Request’ email, print the Identity Verification Form, complete it, and take it to a notary public for endorsement. Using the SAMS contact information in the e-mail, digitally upload, fax, or mail the completed form and supporting documentation.

Once your information is received and approved, you will receive ‘SAMS Account Activation’ and ‘SAMS Activity Authorization’ emails, followed by receipt of your SAMS grid card, which will be delivered to your home address via U.S. mail. The approval process can take up to three weeks.

Note: Your SAMS grid card should be delivered to your home address via U.S. mail within 2 weeks after you receive your SAMS approval email. If you do not receive your SAMS grid card within two weeks, contact samshelp@cdc.gov for assistance.
Choose Your Two Proofing Documents

A List
• Driver’s license
  – Not expired
  – Current home address*
• US Passport (not expired)
• US Military ID

B List
• Employee ID Card that includes:
  – Your name
  – Your organization
  – Your photo
• Voter ID or Registration Card
• Certified Birth Certificate

*Supply a utility bill with current address if different (not a cell phone bill)

https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/sams/sams-id-508.pdf
Helpful Tips

• Use a smart phone to take a clear picture of your driver’s license
• Email/text the picture to your computer
• Print and save for later
Upload Your SAMS Application

Use the link located on Step 5 of your Identity verification form.

5. Submit the completed form via Upload or Fax, along with photocopies of your identity documentation and any supplemental documentation needed, to SAMS by following the instructions below.

To Upload a Scanned PDF:
You may upload a single PDF that includes all of your proofing documentation (form, scan(s) of identification, notary stamp, supplemental documentation, etc) by logging into SAMS using your SAMS username and recently established password. To upload a document visit the following link:
https://sft1-sams.cdc.gov/Proofing/Upload/upload.aspx
SAMS Application

• Sign in using the new password you created.
  – Call SAMS help desk to confirm receipt and acceptance of documents. 1-877-681-2901
Call the help desk, 1-877-681-2901, if you have not received your card 7-10 days after you upload the documents.
NHSN Login: https://sams.cdc.gov

SAMS grid card

Use your grid card
Top Reasons for Level-3 Denial

Don’t let this happen to you

1. Home address does not match driver’s license
2. Legal Name does not match driver’s license
3. Registered work address instead of home address
4. Driver’s license is expired
5. Picture on driver’s license is not clear
6. Notary stamp illegible/exp. date not visible
7. Only 1 document was submitted
8. Timed out
Important Tips!

• Use your **home address** not your work
• First & Last Name **must** appear **exactly** as it appears on your identity proofing document(s) (e.g., driver’s license)
• Home address **must** appear **exactly** as it appears on your identity proofing document(s)
NHSN Hygiene - Add Users “Issues”

If you have added a user, and the user has agreed to the rules of behavior, and he/she did not receive an invitation email:

1. Email nhsn@cdc.gov with the subject line: LTCF-add user/invitation to register. Include the email address, full name, & NHSN org id and request a new invitation to register, explain you did not receive one yet.

2. If the new user never received a Welcome to NHSN email, please double check the email address you entered in NHSN. (User>Find>Find and review info)
Join & Confer Rights to Alliant Quality

Group Name: Alliant Quality-LTC
Group ID: 83378  Joining Password: Alliant20!

Have You Completed the CMS Targeted COVID-19 Training?

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<th>Training</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>CMS Targeted COVID-19 Training for Frontline Nursing Home Staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>CMS Targeted COVID-19 Training for Nursing Home Management</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Mental Health Centers Basic Training</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaint &amp; Incident Intake for Long Term Care</td>
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</table>

CMS Targeted COVID-19 Training for Nursing Home Management

This Targeted COVID-19 Training for Nursing Home Management is intended to provide administrative staff members with best practices for containing and preventing the spread of COVID-19 in nursing homes. This training will aid you in prioritizing resident and staff health during the COVID-19 pandemic.

New Hand Hygiene Poster & Badge

https://www.alliantquality.org/topic/hand-hygiene/
Mark Your Calendar!

Shop Talk 3rd Thursdays at 2pm ET:


Visit our website for More info:
https://www.alliantquality.org/shop-talks/
• Please put your questions into the Q & A.
Thank You for Your Time!

Contact the Patient Safety Team

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Marilee.Johnson@AlliantHealth.org | 919.695.8331

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Infection Prevention Specialist
Amy.Ward@AlliantHealth.org | 678.527.3653

Melody Brown, MSM
Aim Manager, Patient Safety
Melody.Brown@AlliantHealth.org | 678.527.3466
Making Health Care Better
Together

ALABAMA • FLORIDA • GEORGIA • KENTUCKY • LOUISIANA • NORTH CAROLINA • TENNESSEE

This material was prepared by Alliant Quality, the quality improvement group of Alliant Health Solutions (AHS), the Medicare Quality Innovation Network - Quality Improvement Organization for Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, North Carolina, and Tennessee, under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The contents presented do not necessarily reflect CMS policy. Publication No. 1250W-AHSQIN-QIO-TO1NH-20-411