Shop Talk Office Hours:
NHSN Updates & Technical Assistance

Welcome!

- All lines are muted, so please ask your questions in Q&A.
- For technical issues, initiate chat with the Technical Support panelist.
- Please actively participate in polling questions that will appear on the lower right-hand side of your screen.

We will get started shortly!

Presented By:

Marilee Johnson, MBA, MT (ASCP)
Infection Prevention Technical Advisor

November 18, 2021

Marilee Johnson, MBA, MT (ASCP)

INFECTION PREVENTION TECHNICAL ADVISOR

Marilee is a health professional with experience in public health epidemiology, infection prevention and clinical microbiology. Recently, she worked with the CDC's National Healthcare Safety Network to reduce *C. difficile* infections in nursing home residents. She supports nursing homes with tracking and reporting infections in NHSN and focuses on strategies to reduce health-acquired infections across all patient care settings.

Marilee loves gardening, hiking, reading, yoga and spending time with her family and friends.

Contact: marilee.johnson@allianthealth.org

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 and assisting them in reducing health care-associated infections across the continuum of care.

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

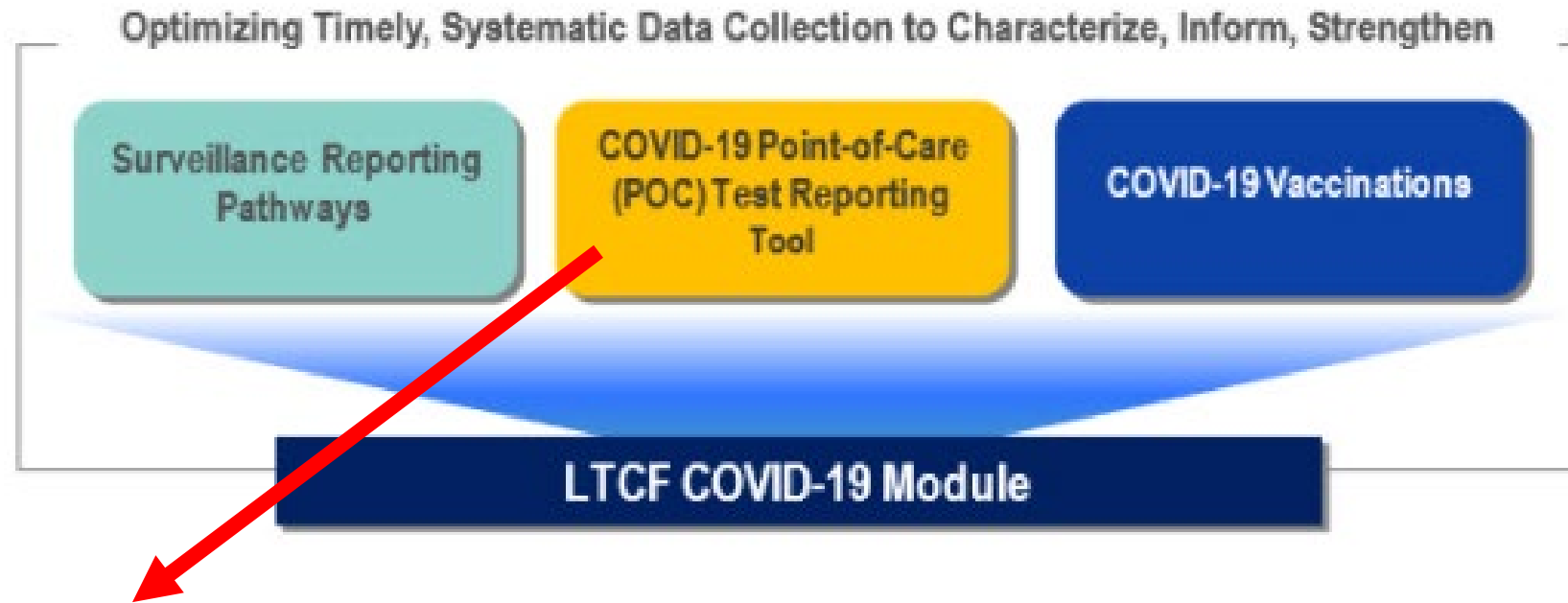**Contact: Amy.Ward@AlliantHealth.org**

Objectives

Learn Today:
- Create a NHSN notebook
- How to review my facility's NHSN data

Use Tomorrow:
- Share the NHSN notebook with others at your facility
- Check your data for accuracy weekly
- Use your NHSN data for quality improvement

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Required NHSN Reporting Pathways Weekly and Within Seven Days of Prior Submission

Optimizing Timely, Systematic Data Collection to Characterize, Inform, Strengthen

Surveillance Reporting Pathways	COVID-19 Point-of-Care (POC) Test Reporting Tool	COVID-19 Vaccinations

LTCF COVID-19 Module

*Positive and negative POC test results for residents and staff must be reported within 24 hours to either NHSN or directly to state health department. **Exception: Georgia mandates NHSN**

https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/covid19/ltcf/cms-covid19-req-508.pdf

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Legacy Reference Links

4-27-21: [Nursing Home Visitation Guidance QSO-20-39-NH REVISED (cms.gov)](#)

5-6-2021: https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-29-nh.pdf Reporting COVID Cases in NHSN/Focus Survey

5-11-2021: https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-21-19-nh.pdf Vaccine Reporting Requirements

6-2021: Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) COVID-19 NHSN Reporting Requirements for Nursing Homes: https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/covid19/ltcf/cms-covid19-req-508.pdf

6-10-2021: Updated to include vaccine rate data on CMS website: https://data.cms.gov/stories/s/COVID-19-Nursing-Home-Data/bkwz-xpvg Link: https://data.cms.gov/sites/default/files/2021-08/covid-19-nursing-home-resident-and-staff-vaccination-rates_1.xlsx

6-21: State-based best practices: https://www.cms.gov/files/document/covid-toolkit-states-mitigate-covid-19-nursing-homes.pdf

7-2021: FAQ: https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/hps/weekly-covid-vac/faqs.html

8-2021: https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/nqf/covid-vax-hcpcoverage-508.pdf

9-10-21: https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-38-nh-revised.pdf Long-Term Care (LTC) Facility Testing Requirements

9-10-21: Full CDC Guidance for Nursing Homes re: COVID-19 [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations to Prevent SARS-CoV-2 Spread in Nursing Homes | CDC](#)

Legacy Reference Links

10-2021: New Tracking sheets for Vaccine Module
Data Tracking Worksheet for COVID-19 Vaccination among Residents – September 2021 excel icon[XLS – 800 KB]
Data Tracking Worksheet for COVID-19 Vaccination among Healthcare Personnel – September 2021 excel icon[XLS – 800 KB]

NHSN Website
FAQ for reporting: FAQs COVID-19 Data Published by CMS (cdc.gov)
To log into SAMS/NHSN: https://sams.cdc.gov

New guidelines for identify verification and proofing for SAMS: https://auth.cdc.gov/sams/SAMSUserGuide.pdf?disp=y
https://auth.cdc.gov/sams/IdentityVerificationOverview.pdf?disp=y

Publicly-reported LTCF COVID-19 data: https://data.cms.gov/covid-19/covid-19-nursing-home-data   (You should check your facility data often)

Booster updates: Who Is Eligible for a COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Shot? | CDC

COVID vaccines for children: COVID-19 Vaccines for Children and Teens | CDC

All CMS regulatory updates can be found here: Policy & Memos to States and Regions | CMS and Nursing Homes | CMS

CDC COVID-19 What's new and updated: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/whats-new-all.html

Cases in the U.S.: CDC COVID Data Tracker

11/4/2021: COVID-19 Vaccination Regulation for Health Care Workers

11/12/2021: Revised Nursing Home Visitation-COVID-19 QSO-20-39-NH

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Secure Access Management: Mobile Soft Token and Identity Verification

New Option for User Identity Verification in SAMS
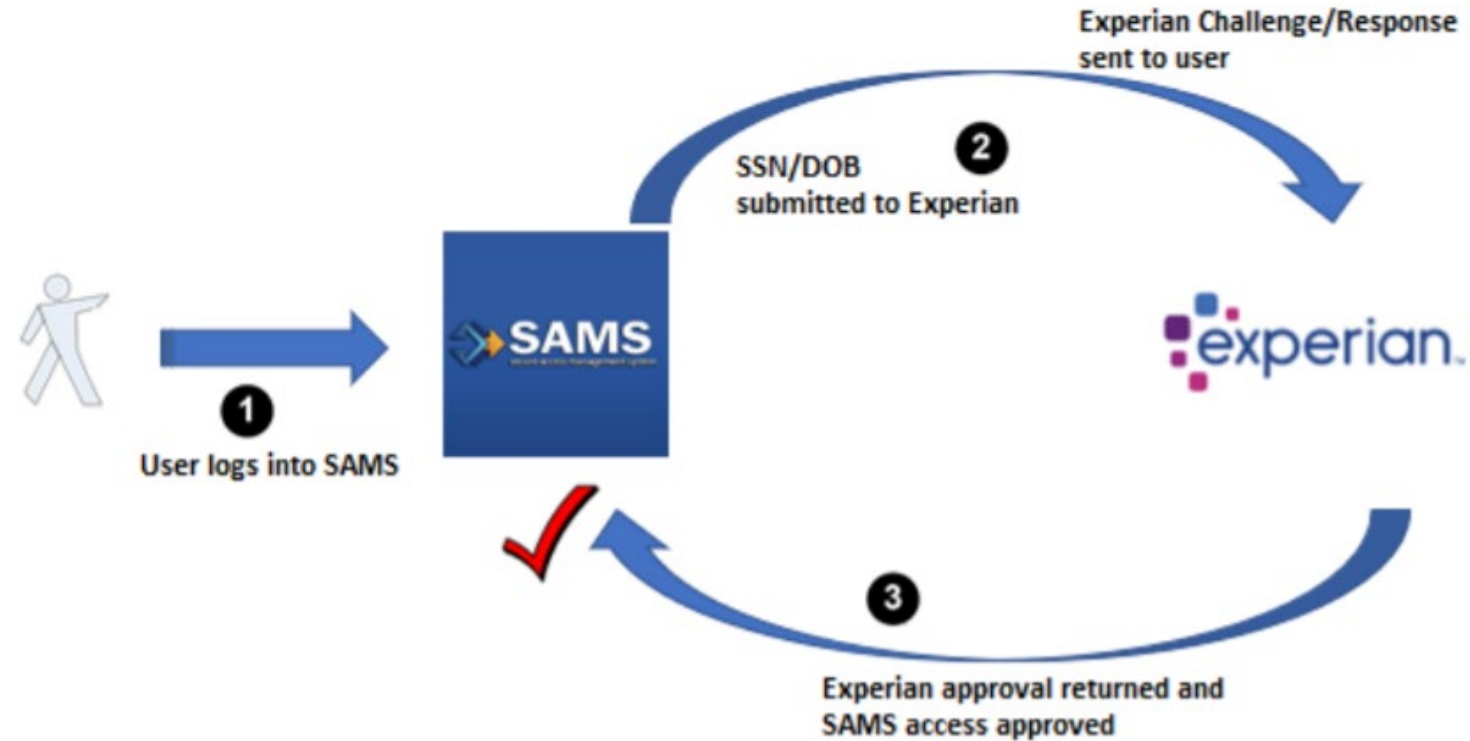
Diagram 1: Basic User Identity Verification using Experian process

New Change in SAMS Access Identity Verification for Level 3

If you are currently working on getting access to the SAMS LOGIN portal for your NHSN account or if you need level-3:

- Here is a link to the new option: https://sams.cdc.gov

- User Guide

Option 1 - Using a secure interface, you will provide Experian with your social security number (SSN) and Date Of Birth (DOB). This information is sent directly to Experian and is NOT stored or saved by SAMS/CDC. Experian will attempt to validate your information and may ask you a series of questions based on your credit history. There is no impact on your credit score or credit worthiness. This is the fastest and safest method to complete the SAMS identity proofing process.

- FAQS

- Identity Verification Overview

New Option for Lost Grid Cards

Entrust Soft Token & Grid Card
How do I request a new GRID card?

If a grid card is lost or stolen, a replacement can be requested via the Entrust Mobile Soft Token & Grid Card link located on the SAMS homepage after successfully logging in. This is the easiest and fastest way to request a new card. As soon as a new card is requested, the old card will be immediately deactivated.

Alternatively, you can email or call the SAMS helpdesk for a new card. Before doing so, please verify the home address associated with your SAMS profile is correct.

Can level 3 users who already have a grid card also configure an Entrust soft token (mobile authenticator)? Yes, users can configure multiple soft tokens across up to three devices in addition to having an issued grid card.

To issue a soft token or grid card, select the Entrust Mobile Soft Token & Grid Card link on the SAMS homepage.
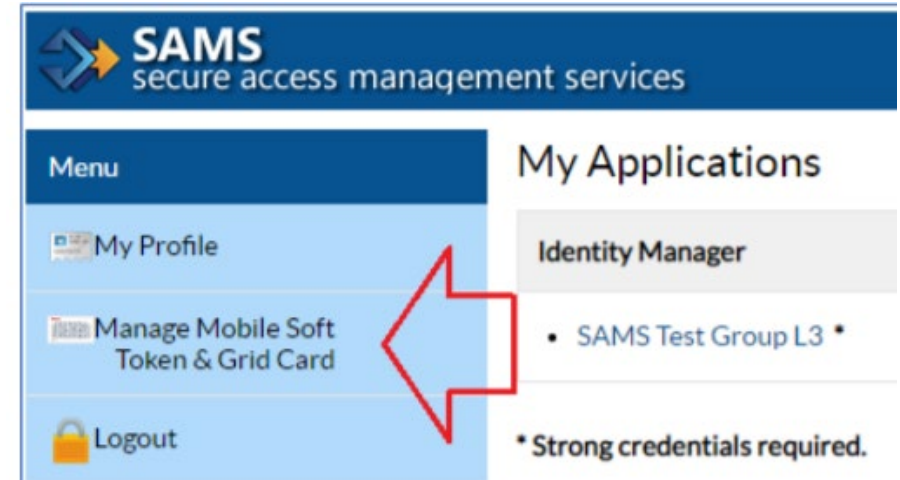
Set Up Your Application To Use the "Soft Token"
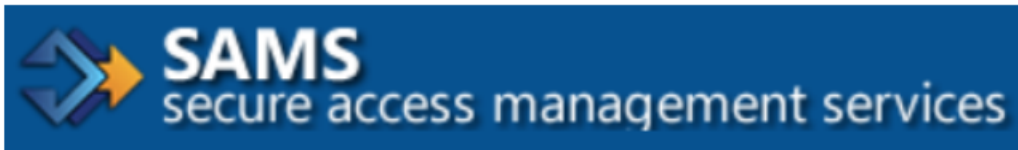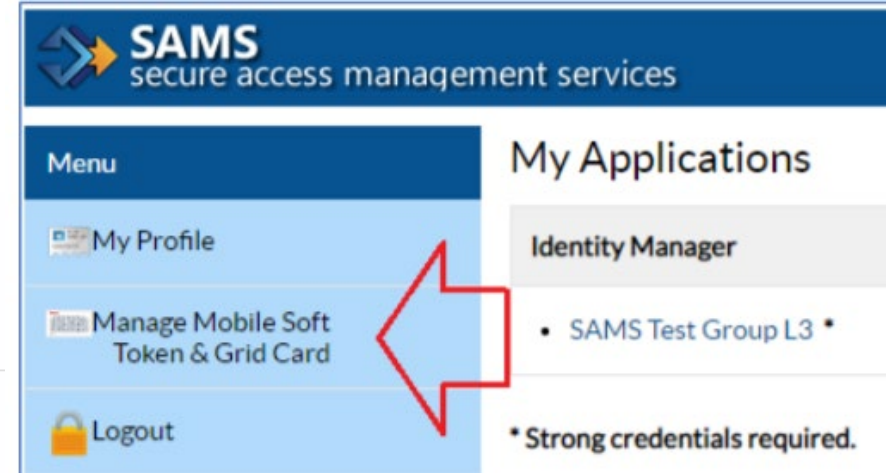
Download the Entrust App on Your Phone

SAMS
secure access management services

ENTRUST

Soft Token

Have you downloaded and installed the **Entrust Identity** application onto your mobile device, or the **Entrust Identity Desktop Soft Token** application onto your computer? Click here for more information

Yes   No

Not sure what to do?

Answer **Yes** if you've successfully downloaded and installed the Entrust Identity or Desktop Soft Token application. After answering Yes, you will be prompted to set up a soft token.

Log into SAMS using Entrust Identity not the card

Entrust Identity

Entrust   Tools

E Everyone

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 5,445 👤

ENTRUST

🛈 This app is available for your device

🔖 Add to Wishlist   Install

Create a NHSN Notebook

National Healthcare Safety Network
Create a Notebook for Your Facility

NHSN Facility ORGID

Name & Email address

- NHSN Admin

- Primary Contact

- Other Active Users

Checklist for reporting

CMS Requirements

Alliant QIO website

include our contact info:

Marilee Johnson marilee.johnson@allianthealth.org

Amy Ward amy.ward@allianthealth.org

NHSN help desk

- nhsn@cdc.gov

SAMS help desk

- 1-877-681-2901

- samshelp@cdc.gov

SAMS portal

https://sams.cdc.gov

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Do This: Print Out the Facility Info Page
Facility ID/ORG ID & Contact Info

Facility Information

Mandatory fields marked with *

Facility Information

Facility ID : 59979

AHA ID : _____
CMS Certification Number (CCN) : _____
Effective Date of CCN : ___ ___
VA Station Code : _____
Object Identifier : _____
CLIA Identification # : 123456

Facility name * : NHSN 12 SOW LTC QIN-QIO Test Facility
Address, line 1 * : 2200 Main St.
Address, line 2 : _____
Address, line 3 : _____
City * : Atlanta
State * : GA - Georgia
County * : DeKalb
Zip Code * : 30309
Phone * : 555-888-3455
Fax : _____

Zip Code Ext : ___
Ext : ___

Facility: Y
Facility type* : LTC-SKILLNURS - Skilled Nursing Facility
Was this facility operational in the year prior to NHSN enrollment (i.e., last year)?* : ○ Yes ● No

IHS Facility: ○ Yes ● No
Status: A - Active (Test)

Components Followed

Follow/Followed	Component	Activated	Deactivated	Agreement Accepted	View Agreement
BV	Biovigilance				
DIAL	Dialysis				
HCW	Healthcare Personnel Safety				
XLTCF	Long Term Care Facility	01/28/2020		Y	View Agreement
NEO	Neonatal				
OP	Outpatient Procedure				
PS	Patient Safety				

Contact Information

Contact Type	Contact Name	Phone No. text	Email	Action
• Facility Administrator				
Long Term Care Facility Primary Contact				

MJOHNSON
NHSN 12 SOW LTC QIN-QIO T...

COVID-19	▶
Vaccination Summary	
Import/Export	
Surveys	▶
Analysis	▶
Users	▶
Facility	▶
Group	▶
Logout	

Print Form

Facility name
Address, line 1

Customize Forms
Facility Info
Add/Edit Component
Locations

Other Suggested Information for Your NHSN Notebook

Alliant QIO Resources

Sign up to attend Monthly NHSN Updates at https://quality.allianthealth.org/topic/shop-talks/

Archived NHSN Shop Talk Webinars

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-nhOW6khvXo&list=PLXWmxni-xNHuSn6SkIcu3N1ZG43ounSq3

NHSN FAQs Shop Talk Shorts https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLXWmxni-xNHspWHhLlIrqcLGlzXZPljlF

National Healthcare Safety Network Website

https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/index.html

Change Facility Administrator when no one has access

https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/facadmin/index.html

Reassign Facility Admin

https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/covid19/ltcf/reassign-fa-508.pdf

Add Users to access your facility's NHSN account

https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/covid19/ltcf/add-user-508.pdf

Change email address (Must change in NHSN first, then in SAMS)

https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/gen-support/edit-email-sams-facility-508.pdf

Annual Survey Due March 2022.

https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/forms/57.137_LTCFSurv_BLANK.pdf

Recent Reading Materials to Improve Infection Prevention in Nursing Homes

[Protecting Nursing Home Residents from Covid-19: Federal Strike Team Findings and Lessons Learned | Catalyst non-issue content (nejm.org)](#)

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Tracking COVID-19 Vaccination Rates

Emergency Regulation Requiring COVID-19 Vaccination for Health Care Workers

Requirements – Who in my facility must be vaccinated?

- The vaccination requirements **apply to all eligible staff**, both <u>current and new</u>, working at a facility regardless of clinical responsibility or patient contact, including:
  - Facility Employees
  - Licensed Practitioners
  - Students
  - Trainees
  - Volunteers
  - Contracted Staff

- The vaccination requirements also apply to staff who perform duties offsite (e.g. home health, home infusion therapy, etc.) <u>and</u> to individuals who enter into a CMS regulated facility
  - Example: A physician with privileges in a hospital who is admitting and/or treating patients onsite

- This requirement <u>does not</u> apply to full time telework staff

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Requirements – When must my facility do it?

- You must have your process or plan in place for vaccinating staff, providing exemptions accommodations, and tracking and documenting staff vaccinations within 30-days (by December 5, 2021)

- Additionally, your process or plan for vaccinating staff must ensure that all eligible staff receive:
    - 1st Dose or One-Dose Vaccine by December 5, 2021
    - Received all shots for full vaccination by January 4, 2022

1st Dose or One-Dose Vaccine by December 5, 2021

Received all shots for full vaccination by January 4, 2022

Requirements – How do exemptions work?

CMS requires facilities to allow for the following exemptions to staff in accordance with federal law:

- Recognized medical conditions for which vaccines are contraindicated
- Religious beliefs, observances, or practices

Lee Fleisher
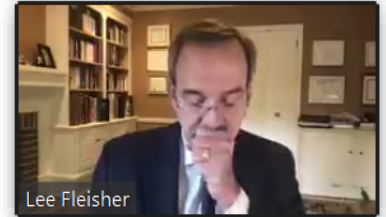
Basics for Medical Exemptions:
- Facilities must develop a process for permitting staff to request a medical exemption
- Facilities must ensure all documentation is signed and dated by a licensed practitioner
- Documentation must contain all information specifying why the COVID-19 vaccines are clinically contraindicated for the staff member
- Documentation must included a statement by the authenticating practitioner recommending the staff member be exempted

Basics for Religious Exemptions:
- Facilities must develop a process for permitting staff to request a religious exemption
- Facilities must ensure all requests for religious exemptions are documented and evaluated in accordance with applicable federal law and as a part of the facility's policies and procedures

CMS posted the presentation slides and a recording of the stakeholder call on their website.

To view the slides, [visit](#).

To view the video, visit: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xHA0zY1aC-Y

In addition to the resources above, CMS prepared a frequently asked questions document, available here:
https://www.cms.gov/files/document/cms-omnibus-staff-vax-requirements-2021.pdf

Verify Your Data in NHSN. Generate Date Sets. Select Line Listing. Click on Run Report.

Note: This HCP report will reflect data submitted after 9/27/21. For data prior, either delete the filter OR pull from the Pre-10.0 line list.
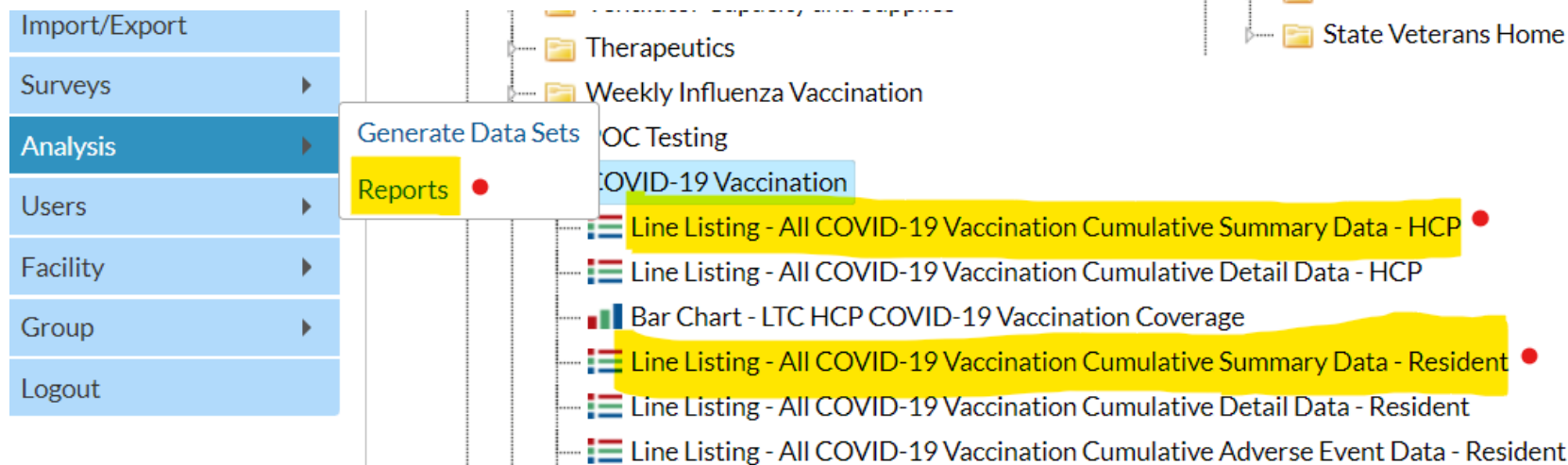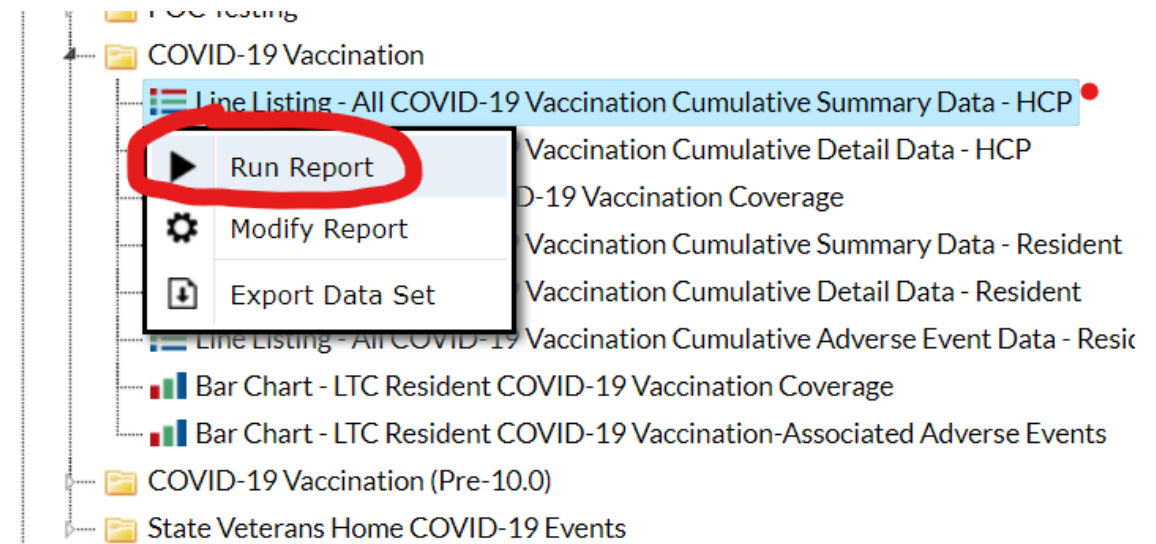
[Shop Talk Short](#)

Side Note:

To review the data fields, such as dates submitted/created in NHSN, you must modify the reports.
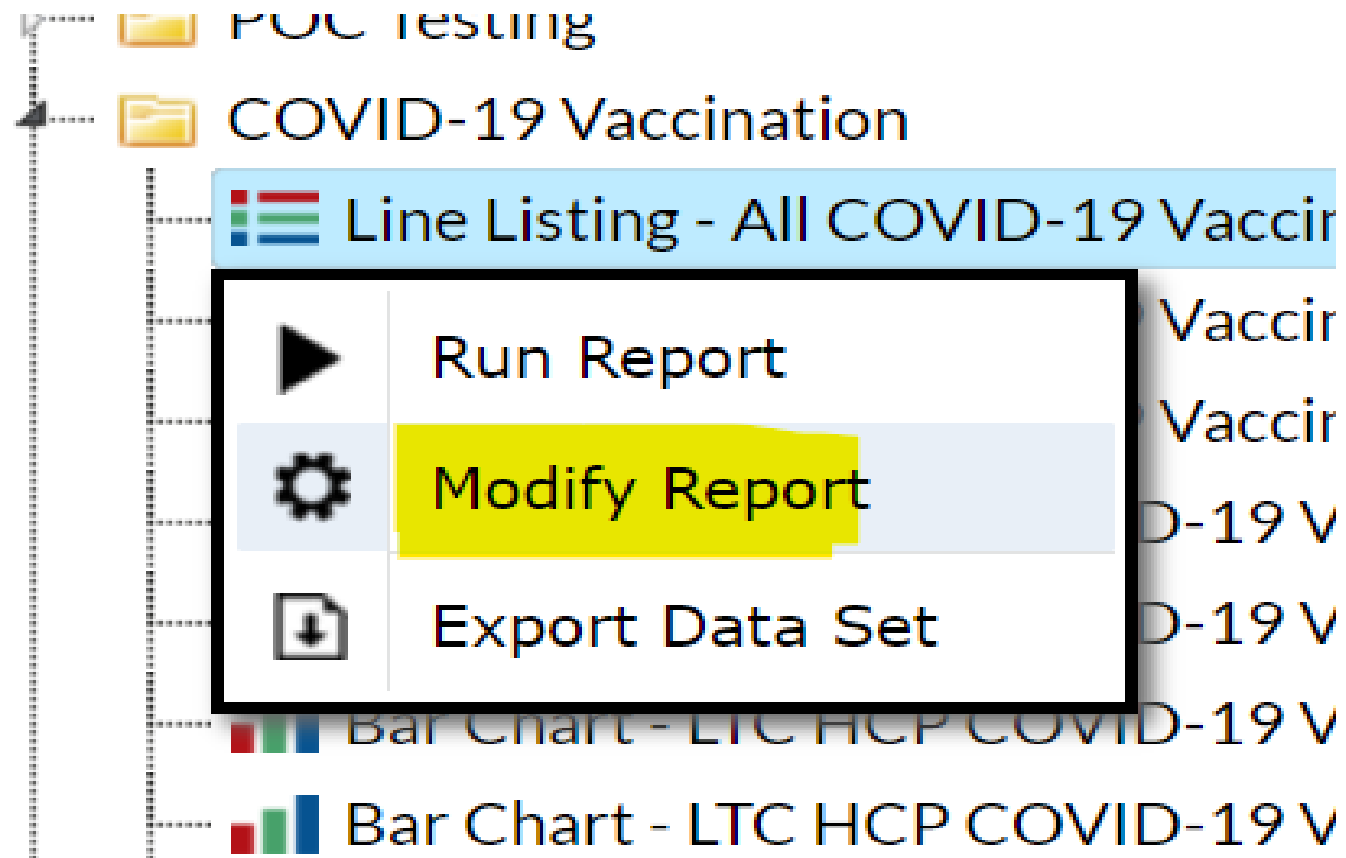
Select the Following Variables to Review in Your Report

To see the date you submitted into NHSN and/or Date Modified.

To see the Total number of HCP eligible to have worked (**Denominator)**

Additional Fields to Review
Booster Percentages

HCP

Residents

Create Date
Last Modified
Number of HCP Eligible to Work
Cumulative number of employee HCP in row 1 who hav
Number of Employees workers in question #2 that are e
Percentage of all eligible individuals who have received

Number of residents in question #2 that are eligible to i
Number of residents in question 4 who have received a
Percentage of all eligible individuals who have received
Create Date
Last Modified

Use This Data for ACTION

Week of 10/10 **cumulative vaccinated** is incorrect.

13 HCP need to be vaccinated

3 need their 2nd dose

Vaccination rate is 84.6%

Week of data collection, start date	Week of data collection, end date	Number of HCP Eligible to Work	Cumulative number of Eligible HCP who completed COVID-19 vaccine(s) dose at this facility or elsewhere	Cumulative number of Eligible HCP who have started but not completed COVID-19 vaccine(s) at this facility or elsewhere	Medical contraindication - All HCP (Total)	Offered but declined - All HCP (Total)	Unknown vaccination status - All HCP (Total)	Is your facility enrolled as a COVID-19 vaccination provider?	Had sufficient supply of COVID-19 vaccine(s) to offer all healthcare personnel the opportunity to receive COVID-19 vaccine(s) from your facility in the current reporting week?	Had other arrangements sufficient to offer all healthcare personnel the opportunity to receive COVID-19 vaccine(s) in the current reporting week?	Describe any other COVID-19 vaccination supply-related issue(s) at your facility	Percentage of persons who have received a completed vaccination course against SARS-CoV-2	Percentage of persons who have received a partial vaccination against SARS-CoV2 (NOTE: this measure would exclude vaccines that require only a single dose)	d
09/27/2021	10/03/2021	104	99	3	0	2	0	N		Y	PHARMACY PROVIDES VACCINATION	95.192	2.885	
10/04/2021	10/10/2021	105	35	0	0	70	0	N		Y	VACCINATIONS ARE PROVIDED BY CONTRACTED PHARMACY	33.333	0.000	
10/11/2021	10/17/2021	104	88	1	0	15	0	N		Y	VACCINATIONS ARE PROVIDED BY CONTRACTED PHARMACY	84.615	0.962	
10/18/2021	10/24/2021	104	88	1	0	15	0	N		Y	VACCINATION IS PROVIDED BY CONTRACT PHARMACY	84.615	0.962	
10/25/2021	10/31/2021	104	88	3	0	13	0	N		Y	CONSULTANT PHARMACY PROVIDES VACCINATION	84.615	2.885	

Use This Data for ACTION

Unknown vaccination status is high; Need information to determine vaccination status for mandate.
5 need their 2nd dose
Vaccination rate is 62.2%

Week of data collection, start date	Week of data collection, end date	Number of residents staying in this facility for at least 1 day during the week of data collection	Cumulative number of residents in Question #1 who have completed any COVID-19 vaccine series at this facility or elsewhere	Cumulative number of Residents who have started but not completed COVID-19 vaccine(s) at this facility or elsewhere	Medical contraindication	Offered but declined	Unknown vaccination status	CONFIRMED: Residents currently in the facility with confirmed COVID-19	Is your facility enrolled as a COVID-19 vaccination provider?	Had sufficient supply of COVID-19 vaccine(s) to offer all residents the opportunity to receive COVID-19 vaccine(s) from your facility in the current reporting week?	Had other arrangements sufficient to offer all residents the opportunity to receive COVID-19 vaccine(s) in the current reporting week?	Describe any other COVID-19 vaccination supply-related issue(s) at your facility	Percentage of persons who have received a completed vaccination course against SARS-CoV-2	Percentage of persons who have received a partial vaccination against SARS-CoV2 (NOTE: this measure would exclude vaccines that require only a single dose)
09/27/2021	10/03/2021	72	41	11	0	0	20	.	N		Y		56.944	15.278
10/04/2021	10/10/2021	71	43	2	0	0	26	.	N		Y		60.563	2.817
10/11/2021	10/17/2021	70	43	5	0	0	22	.	N		Y		61.429	7.143
10/18/2021	10/24/2021	73	46	5	0	0	22	.	N		Y		63.014	6.849
10/25/2021	10/31/2021	75	46	2	0	0	27	.	N		Y		61.333	2.667
11/01/2021	11/07/2021	74	46	5	0	0	23	.	N		Y		62.162	6.757

Check Your Dates to Ensure You Reported Within 7 days from Prior Week

Ensure the data submitted into NHSN is correct. This facility is showing zero staff have completed the vaccine and from 94% vaccinated to zero.

Remember To Submit Cumulative Numbers

This facility incorrectly reported the number of residents who have received the booster.

Review your data for accuracy each week.

Number of residents in question #2 that are eligible to receive an additional dose of COVID-19 vaccine	Number of residents in question 4 who have received an additional dose of COVID-19 vaccine at this facility or elsewhere since August 2021	Percentage of all eligible individuals who have received an additional dose of COVID-19 vaccine	Create Dat	Las
54	0	0	05OCT202	05(
54	0	0	12OCT202	12(
54	0	0	19OCT202	19(
58	46	70.769	26OCT202	26(
0	0	0	02NOV202	02M

NHSN COVID-19 DATA
Downloaded on October 24, 2021

Current Facility Numbers Published on
Data.CMS.gov

NHSN
NATIONAL HEALTHCARE
SAFETY NETWORK

By the numbers

86.0%
National Percent of Vaccinated Residents per Facility

72.1%
National Percent of Vaccinated Staff per Facility

716,311
Total Resident COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

138,985
Total Resident COVID-19 Deaths

Do you know your facility's vaccine rate? Are you tracking your confirmed cases on a graph (epi curve)?

?

666,870
Total Staff COVID-19 Confirmed Cases

2,142
Total Staff COVID-19 Deaths

https://data.cms.gov/covid-19/covid-19-nursing-home-data

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Percent of Current Staff (Healthcare Personnel) with Completed COVID-19 Vaccinations per Facility

Note: This shows the average percentage among facilities who have reported vaccination data in the current or prior week.
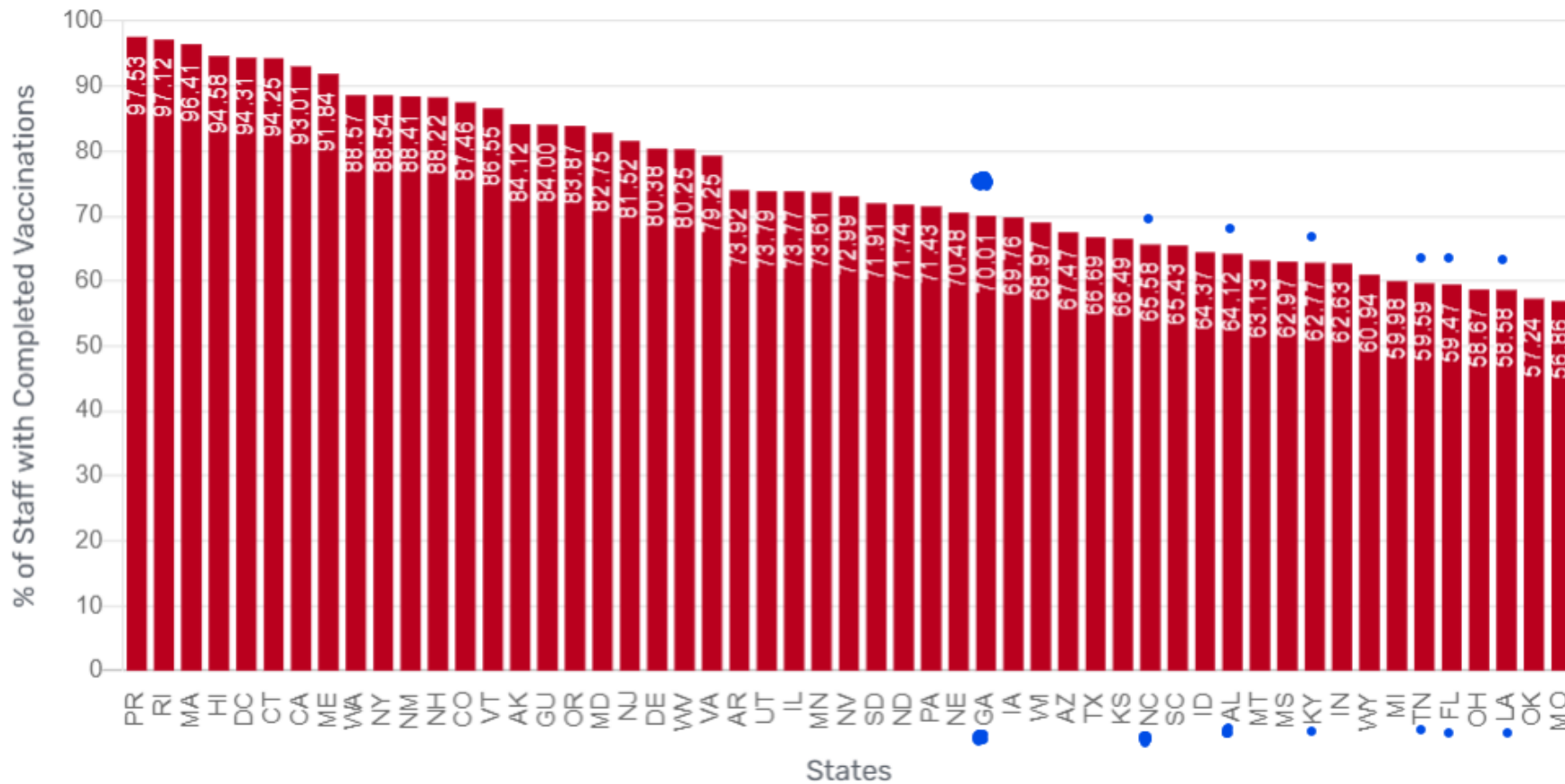
Vaccination Rates for Staff and Residents—Moving towards 100%

- Check your NHSN data for accuracy
- Review your rates on data.cms.gov and care compare each week.
- Continue your vaccination strategies.
- Reach out for assistance.
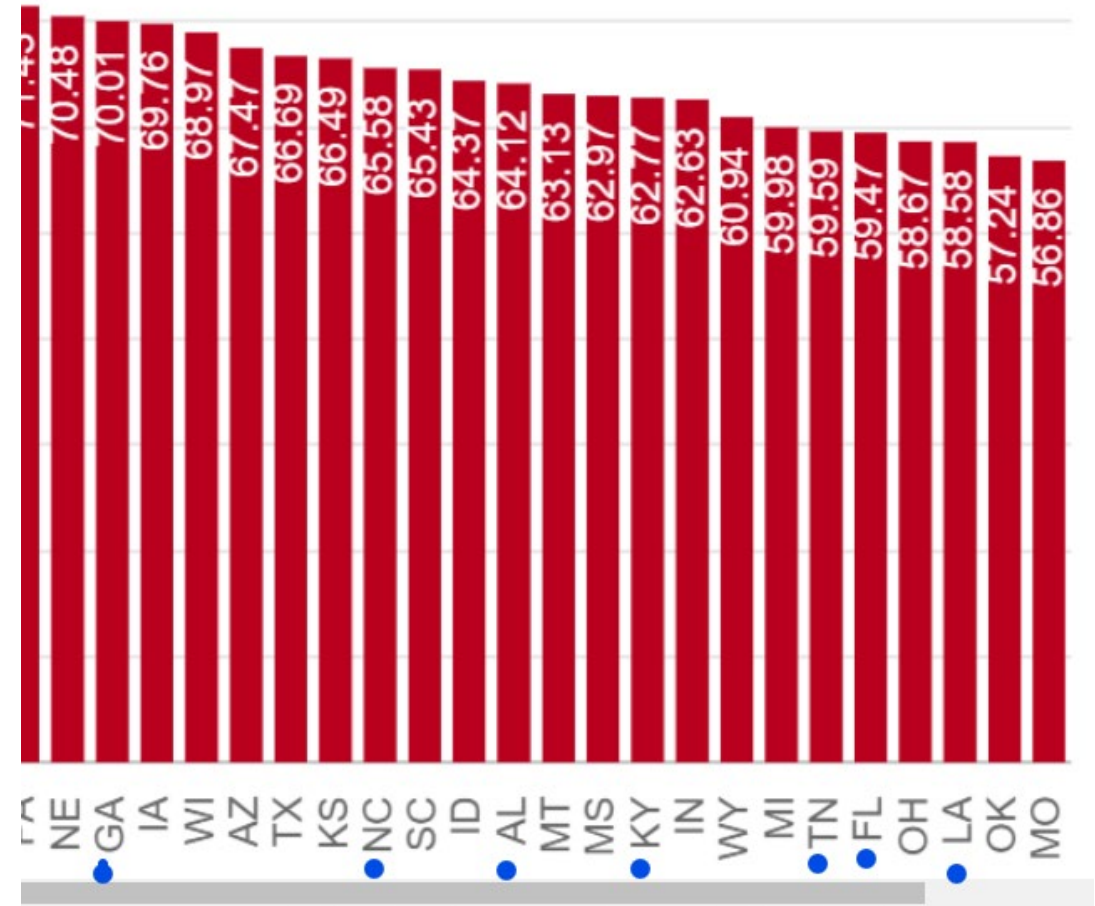
Objectives Check In!

Learn Today:
- Create an NHSN notebook
- How to review my data in NHSN

Use Tomorrow:
- Show your NHSN data for quality improvement
- Share the NHSN notebook with others at your facility
- Check your data for accuracy weekly

How will this change what you do? Please tell us in the poll.

Shop Talk Shorts YouTube Channel
Instructional videos to answer technical questions related to NHSN

[Help! I am new & no one has NHSN access](#)
[How do I find out who has access to my facility?](#)
[How do I add users and rights to our NHSN account?](#)
[My administrator added me as a user, but I can't login.](#)
I got a new job. [Can I use my grid card to access my new facility?](#)
[How do I change my email address for NHSN & SAMS?](#)
[How do I get a SAMS card? I already have access to my facility.](#)
[I am leaving, how do I reassign another NHSN facility administrator?](#)
NEW [How do I generate a report in NHSN to see my vaccine data and dates submitted?](#)
I want to receive technical assistance. [How do I join Alliant Quality's NHSN Data Group?](#)
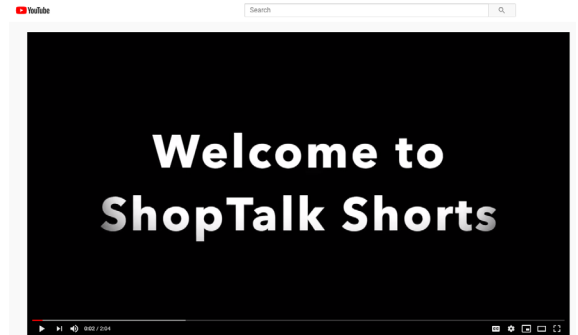
Bookmark our FAQ YouTube channel for easy reference to frequent NHSN issues:
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLXWmxni-xNHspWHhLlIrqcLGlzXZPljlF

If Your Facility Would Like NHSN Technical Assistance

Ensure you have joined our group **before** you reach out to us.
We cannot provide assistance efficiently unless you join.
Also, when you send an email to us, be sure to copy
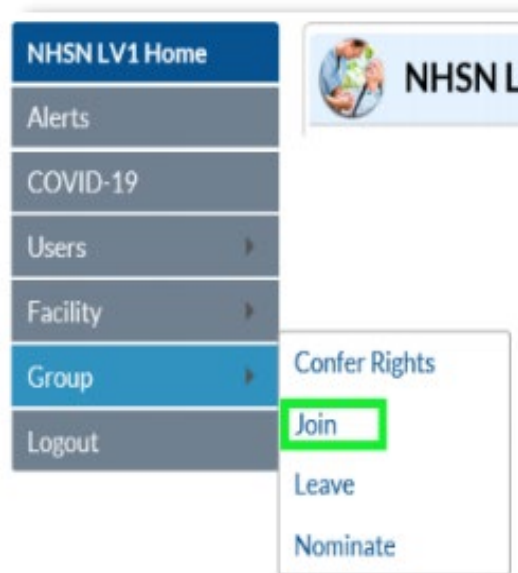NHSN@cdc.gov for reference.

Need Assistance with NHSN Reporting?

Join our NHSN data group!
Group Name: Alliant Quality-LTC
Group ID: 83378
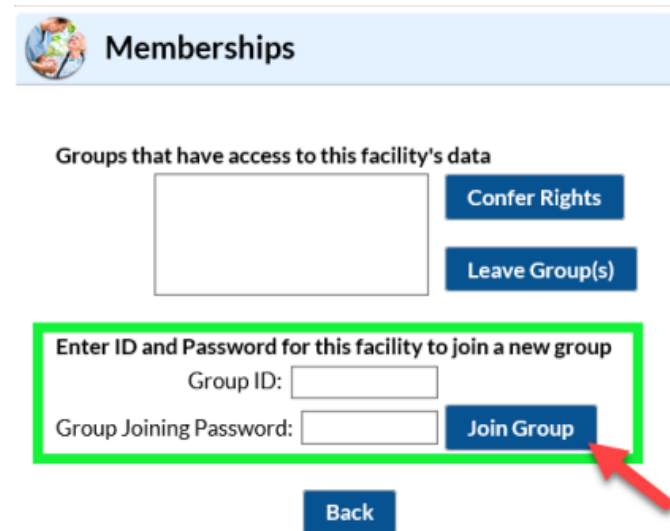Joining Password: Alliant20!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nCmh6oRJhoE&list=PLXWmxni-xNHspWHhLlIrqcLGlzXZPljlF&index=1

Questions?

Please put your questions into the Q&A.

Thank You for Your Time!
Contact the Patient Safety Team

Marilee H. Johnson, MBA, MT (ASCP)
Technical Advisor, Infection Prevention
Marilee.Johnson@AlliantHealth.org | 919.695.8331

Amy Ward, MS, BSN, RN, CIC
Infection Prevention Specialist
Amy.Ward@AlliantHealth.org | 678.527.3653

Melody Brown, MSM
Aim Manager, Patient Safety
Melody.Brown@AlliantHealth.org | 678.527.3466

Closing Survey

Help Us Help You!

- Please turn your attention to the poll that has appeared in the lower right-hand side of your screen.
- Completion of this survey will help us ensure our topics cater to your needs.

ALLIANT HEALTH SOLUTIONS

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CMS 12th SOW Goals

Behavioral Health Outcomes & Opioid Misuse
- ✓ Promote opioid best practices
- ✓ Decrease high dose opioid prescribing and opioid adverse events in all settings
- ✓ Increase access to behavioral health services

Patient Safety
- ✓ Reduce risky medication combinations
- ✓ Reduce adverse drug events
- ✓ Reduce C. diff in all settings

Chronic Disease Self-Management
- ✓ Increase performance on ABCS clinical quality measures (i.e., aspirin use, blood pressure control, cholesterol management, cardiac rehab)
- ✓ Identify patients at high-risk for developing kidney disease & improve outcomes
- ✓ Identify patients at high risk for diabetes-related complications & improve outcomes

Quality of Care Transitions
- ✓ Convene community coalitions
- ✓ Identify and promote optical care for super utilizers
- ✓ Reduce community-based adverse drug events

Nursing Home Quality
- ✓ Improve the mean total quality score
- ✓ Develop national baselines for healthcare related infections in nursing homes
- ✓ Reduce emergency department visits and readmissions of short stay residents

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Making Health Care Better *Together*

Upcoming Events

Shop Talk
3rd Thursday of the month **2-3 p.m. ET | 1-2 p.m. CT**
December 16
January 20
February 17
March 17

Making Health Care Better Together

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