

# COVID-19 Updates, Definition Changes for Up-to-Date COVID-19 Vaccination Status, and Updates to COVID-19 Surveillance Pathways and COVID-19 Vaccination Modules

## Welcome!

Chat with Technical Support if you need assistance

### Presented by:

Donald Chitanda, MPH, CIC LTC-CIP  
Infection Prevention Technical Advisor

November 16, 2023



# Donald Chitanda, MPH, CIC

## **INFECTION PREVENTION TECHNICAL ADVISOR**

Donald is a health professional with experience in public health epidemiology and infection prevention. Over the past several years, he worked as an Infection Preventionist at the hospital - and system-level, where he was part of a task force to ensure the safety of caregivers and patients during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, he was a part of and led several projects to reduce hospital-acquired infections utilizing Lean Six Sigma methodologies. He is also trained in ensuring ongoing facility survey readiness for regulatory agencies such as the CMS and The Joint Commission.

**Donald enjoys spending time with family and doing outdoor activities.**

**Contact: [Donald.Chitanda@AlliantHealth.org](mailto:Donald.Chitanda@AlliantHealth.org)**



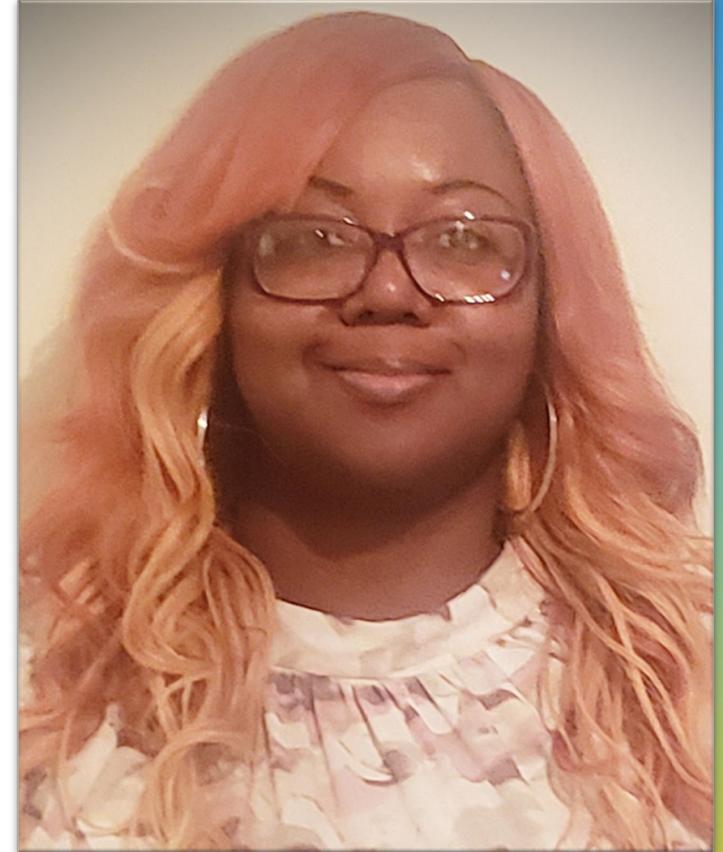
# Paula St. Hill, MPH, A-IPC

## INFECTION PREVENTION TECHNICAL ADVISOR

Paula is a doctoral student with a diverse background in public health, infection prevention, epidemiology, and microbiology. She has over 10 years of health care experience and enjoys public health and identifying ways to improve health outcomes, specifically those related to healthcare-associated infections.

**Paula enjoys spending time with her friends and family.**

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# Erica Umeakunne, MSN, MPH, APRN, CIC

## INFECTION PREVENTION SPECIALIST

Erica is an adult-gerontology nurse practitioner and infection preventionist with experience in primary care, critical care, health care administration and public health.

She was previously the interim hospital epidemiology director for a large health care system in Atlanta and a nurse consultant in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Division of Healthcare Quality Promotion. While at the CDC, she was an infection prevention and control (IPC) subject matter expert for domestic and international IPC initiatives and emergency responses, including Ebola outbreaks and the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Erica enjoys reading, traveling, family time and outdoor activities.**

**Contact: [Erica.Umeakunne@allianthealth.org](mailto:Erica.Umeakunne@allianthealth.org)**



# Amy Ward, MS, BSN, RN, CIC, FAPIC

## PATIENT SAFETY MANAGER

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 healthcare-associated infections across the continuum of care.

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

**Contact: [Amy.Ward@AlliantHealth.org](mailto:Amy.Ward@AlliantHealth.org)**



# Objectives

## Agenda:

- HCP Influenza Reporting **(Required)**
- **Optional** Flu and RSV Reporting Demo
- Weekly Reporting and Troubleshooting Live Demo
- Live questions and answers

# HCP Influenza Reporting

# What to Report

Annual HCP influenza vaccination summary data  
for the 2023-2024 Flu season

# Where to Report

- First, the Healthcare Personnel Safety (HPS) Component in **NHSN** must be activated
- Be sure to not de-activate any other already checked components, such as LTC component



# When to Report

- The reporting period for the 2023-2024 influenza season is from October 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024.
- The deadline to report the one-time summary report is **May 15, 2024**

# Who Can Report

- NHSN designated Facility admin(FA) is the only person that can initiate the process to activate the HPS component in NHSN
  - FA must have SAMS Level 3 reporting access to activate HPS component
  - FA can designate another user to do the reporting, once activated

# Common Issues (last season)

- NHSN designated Facility admin no longer employed at facility
- Facility admin and/or other NHSN users did not have Level 3 access
- LTC component de-activated while trying to activate HPS component
- Facilities not aware of the reporting deadline

# How to be Prepared

- Ensure each entity has multiple NHSN users that have admin rights assigned to them
- Ensure the person listed as Facility admin, is still with the facility
- Ensure all NHSN users have Level 3 access
  - If you do not currently have Level 3 access, you should have received an invitation from NHSN
  - To request Level 3 access, please send an email to [NHSN@cdc.gov](mailto:NHSN@cdc.gov) and place “SAMS Level 3 Access” in the email subject line.

# Upcoming Webinar

- **Topic:** Training for Annual Flu Vaccination Reporting – Long-term Care Facilities (Initial)
- **When:** Nov 21, 2023 01:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

**Register in advance for this webinar:**

[https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_PcTHDlv6SC6xyA1VYUEurQ](https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_PcTHDlv6SC6xyA1VYUEurQ)

# NHSN Live Demo

# Resources

## Where can facilities access training materials?

- Materials pertaining to annual HCP influenza vaccination data reporting are organized under the “Annual” reporting headings on this webpage: [HCP Flu Vaccination | HPS | NHSN | CDC](#).

## What are key training materials for LTCFs?

- This slide deck reviews how LTC facilities can report annual HCP influenza vaccination data through NHSN: [HCP Influenza Vaccination Summary \(cdc.gov\)](#).
- This operational guidance document outlines the CMS reporting requirement: [Operational Guidance for Skilled Nursing Facilities to Report Annual Influenza Vaccination Data to CDC’s NHSN](#).
- There will be a refresher training for LTCFs this fall. Registration information will be provided at a later date.

## Who do facilities contact with questions?

- Please direct all questions regarding CMS SNF QRP requirements and deadlines to: [SNFQualityQuestions@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:SNFQualityQuestions@cms.hhs.gov).
- For questions on how to enter annual HCP influenza vaccination summary data through NHSN, please send an e-mail to [nhsn@cdc.gov](mailto:nhsn@cdc.gov) with “HPS Flu Summary – LTCF” in the e-mail subject line.

# Contact the Patient Safety Team

[patientsafety@alliantHealth.org](mailto:patientsafety@alliantHealth.org)



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**Questions?**



# Mark Your Calendar!

Shop Talk

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays at 2 p.m. ET



[Registration Link](#)

Visit our website for more info:

<https://quality.allianthealth.org/topic/shop-talks/>

# Nursing Home and Partnership for Community Health: CMS 12th SOW GOALS



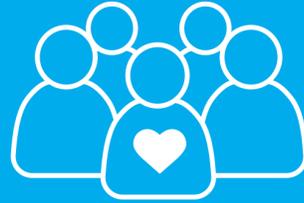
## OPIOID UTILIZATION AND MISUSE

- Promote opioid best practices
- Reduce opioid adverse drug events in all settings



## PATIENT SAFETY

- Reduce hospitalizations due to c. diff
- Reduce adverse drug events
- Reduce facility acquired infections



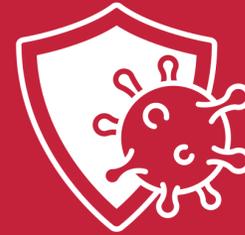
## CHRONIC DISEASE SELF- MANAGEMENT

- Increase instances of adequately diagnosed and controlled hypertension
- Increase use of cardiac rehabilitation programs
- Reduce instances of uncontrolled diabetes
- Identify patients at high-risk for kidney disease and improve outcomes



## CARE COORDINATION

- Convene community coalitions
- Reduce avoidable readmissions, admissions to hospitals and preventable emergency department visits
- Identify and promote optimal care for super utilizers



## COVID-19

- Support nursing homes by establishing a safe visitor policy and cohort plan
- Provide virtual events to support infection control and prevention
- Support nursing homes and community coalitions with emergency preparedness plans



## IMMUNIZATION

- Increase influenza, pneumococcal, and COVID-19 vaccination rates



## TRAINING

- Encourage completion of infection control and prevention trainings by front line clinical and management staff

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