



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

DATE: June 17, 2020

TO: Licensed Assisted Living Facilities

FROM: Tara Ragland, Director, Division of Licensing Programs

RE: Point Prevalence Surveys

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) is offering to conduct COVID-19 Point Prevalence Surveys (PPS) in assisted living facilities (ALFs) for all residents and staff during June and July. A PPS consists of testing all residents and staff on a given day. This aligns with the forthcoming recommended best practices for reopening ALFs.

The Virginia National Guard has partnered with VDH as a resource to increase COVID-19 testing in the Commonwealth. The National Guard is experienced in collecting specimens for COVID-19 testing and recently conducted approximately 35,000 tests, most of which occurred in long-term care facilities. Prior to June, each facility had to initiate the PPS request. VDH has refined its PPS process to be more efficient and proactive. Each ALF should anticipate a call from the National Guard this week. During this call, you will be able to sign up and take advantage of this service for your facility.

Please review the [VDH PPS Guidance](#) prior to conducting a PPS and take the necessary steps to prepare your facility, residents, and staff for the testing and results. The guidance will help your facility prepare for and understand the interventions that may be necessary based on testing results.

Once your PPS is scheduled, VDH will send an Excel spreadsheet template for you to provide specific information about individuals who will be tested, including name, date of birth, gender, telephone number, address (including state and zip), race, ethnicity, and whether each person is a resident or staff member. Providing this information will make the testing day run more efficiently. You may want to begin gathering this information now and reviewing the VDH CheckList provided in the guidance. Advance preparation will help ensure you are ready for your PPS when it is scheduled.

As always, thank you for the work you and your staff do to keep your residents healthy and safe.