TO: Vermont Health Care Providers and Health Care Facilities
FROM: Patsy Kelso, PhD; State Epidemiologist

Update of Recommendations for COVID-19 Testing in Long-term Care Facilities

This Health Update provides an update to recommendations included in the Health Update of March 22, 2021.

Skilled Nursing Facilities, Assisted Living Residences, Residential Care Homes, and Therapeutic Community Residences should continue the following surveillance strategies:

1. Continue once weekly PCR testing of all staff who are not fully vaccinated unless more frequent testing is required by CMS.
2. Use antigen tests immediately upon identification of a symptomatic resident or staff person.

Long-term care facilities no longer need to include their fully vaccinated staff in surveillance testing.

REQUESTED ACTION:

1. Be aware that long-term care facilities no longer need to include their fully vaccinated staff in surveillance testing.

If you have any questions, please contact the HAN Coordinator at 802-859-5900 or vthan@vermont.gov.

HAN Message Type Definitions
Health Alert: Conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.
Health Advisory: Provides important information for a specific incident or situation may not require immediate action.
Health Update: Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.
Info Service Message: Provides general correspondence from VDH, which is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.