



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

Agenda July 9, 2020



Topic	Presenter/Facilitator
Introductions	Susan Kansagra, MD, MBA <i>NC Division of Public Health</i>
Statewide Standing Order	Elizabeth Cuervo Tilson, MD, MPH <i>State Health Director</i>
Global / National / State Epidemiology Update Infection Prevention Key Recommendations Easing of Restrictions	Jennifer MacFarquhar, MPH, BSN, RN, CIC <i>Director, SHARPPS Program</i>
Testing Update	Susan Kansagra, MD, MBA <i>NC Division of Public Health</i> Scott M. Shone, PhD, HCLD(ABB) <i>Director, NC State Laboratory of Public Health</i>
PPE Distribution Updates	Kimberly Clement, MPH, Paramedic <i>Program Manager, Healthcare Preparedness Program</i>
Medicaid Update	Dave Richard <i>Deputy Secretary NC Medicaid</i>
Discussion / Q&A	Call Participants – <i>Please type questions in chat feature</i>

Saving Lives, Saving the Economy, Strengthening our People

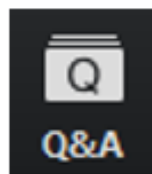


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Logistics for today's COVID-19 Forum

Question during the live webinar



RCC (Relay Conference Captioning)

Participants can access real-time captioning for this webinar here:

<https://www.captionedtext.com/client/event.aspx?EventID=4506679&CustomerID=324>

Technical assistance

technicalassistanceCOVID19@gmail.com

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Statewide Standing Order

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Epidemiology & Infection Prevention

- Epidemiology Update
- Infection Prevention Recommendations
- Easing of Restrictions in Residential Care Facilities



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Epidemiology & Infection Prevention Recommendations

- Cloth face covering: residents
- Facemask: staff
- Eye protection: staff (moderate to substantial community transmission)
- Cohorting/Grouping
- Maintain 6 ft social distancing
- Hand hygiene
- Screening





Easing of Restrictions:

**Smaller Facilities
(6 beds or fewer)**

- **Facility Types:**
 - **Family Care Homes**
 - **Behavioral Health/IDD**
 - **ICF**
- **Activities:**
 - **Visitation (Indoor / Outdoor)**
 - **Communal Dining**
 - **Group Activities**
 - **Outside / Off-Site Activities**



**Easing of
Restrictions:**

**Larger Facilities (7
beds or more)**

- **Facility Types:**
 - **Adult Care Homes**
 - **Behavioral Health/IDD**
 - **ICF/PRTF**
- **Activities:**
 - **Outdoor Visitation**
- **Note:**
 - **Excludes nursing homes**
 - **Additional discussions underway**



Testing Guidance

North Carolina is focused on rapidly [increasing testing](#) of people who may not currently have symptoms, but may have been exposed to COVID-19. This includes:

- Anyone with symptoms suggestive of COVID-19.
- Close contacts of known positive cases, regardless of symptoms.
- Groups of some of the populations with higher risk of exposure or a higher risk of severe disease if they become infected. People in these groups should get tested if they believe they may have been exposed to COVID-19, [whether or not they have symptoms](#).
 - People who live in or have regular contact with high-risk settings (e.g., long-term care facility, homeless shelter, correctional facility, migrant farmworker camp).
 - People from historically marginalized populations who have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. This [fact sheet](#) provides best practices for community testing in historically marginalized populations.
 - Frontline and essential workers (grocery store clerks, gas station attendants, child care workers, construction sites, processing plants, etc.)
 - Health care workers or first responders.
 - People who are at [higher risk](#) of severe illness.
- People who have attended protests, rallies, or other mass gatherings could have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 or could have exposed others.



Testing Site Locator

[Home](#)[About COVID-19](#) ▾[Dashboard](#) ▾[Latest Info](#) ▾[Information For](#) ▾[Guidance](#) ▾[How To Help](#)

COVID-19 Test Site Finder: Get Information on Coronavirus Testing Near You

Powered by community. Brought to you by Castlight

Share:



Anyone with **symptoms** of COVID-19, such as fever, cough or shortness of breath, or anyone who has been exposed to someone with COVID-19 should self-isolate and talk to a health care professional.

- If you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 contact your health care provider or telehealth program to discuss whether you should be evaluated for testing.
- Call the test site before you go to learn about testing criteria, availability, hours and location. Not all health care providers provide testing on-site. Some require an appointment and/or referral from a health care provider. Locations are subject to change.
- Each COVID-19 test provider will determine if testing is appropriate based on your symptoms, risk factors and test availability.

FIND A TESTING SITE

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Testing Guidance

- Test **all** residents and staff in facility if there is a new confirmed case of COVID-19 among staff or residents
- Expect to identify multiple asymptomatic residents and staff with SARS-CoV-2 infection and be prepared to cohort residents and mitigate potential staffing shortages
- Biweekly testing of staff in skilled nursing facilities



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SNF Testing Initiative

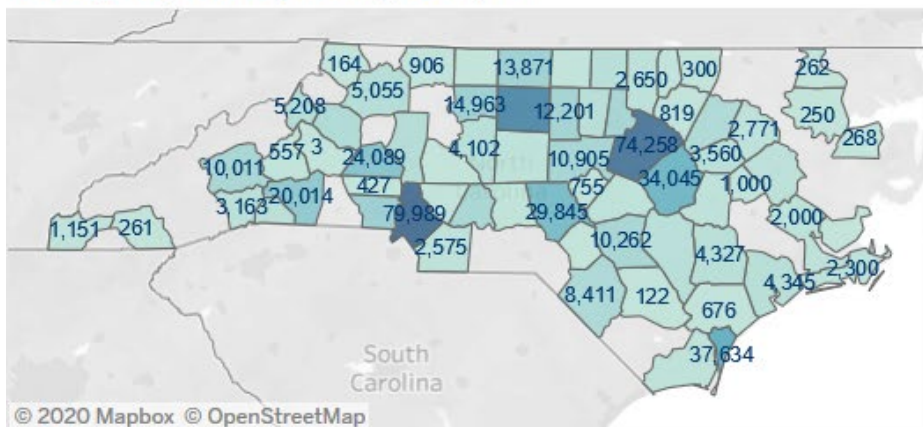


- Launched new initiative with CVS
- CVS will reach out to all SNFs to schedule a date for testing of residents and staff at SNFs
- Do not need to repeat testing if already performed full facility testing after May 18, unless conducting follow up testing for new identified cases.

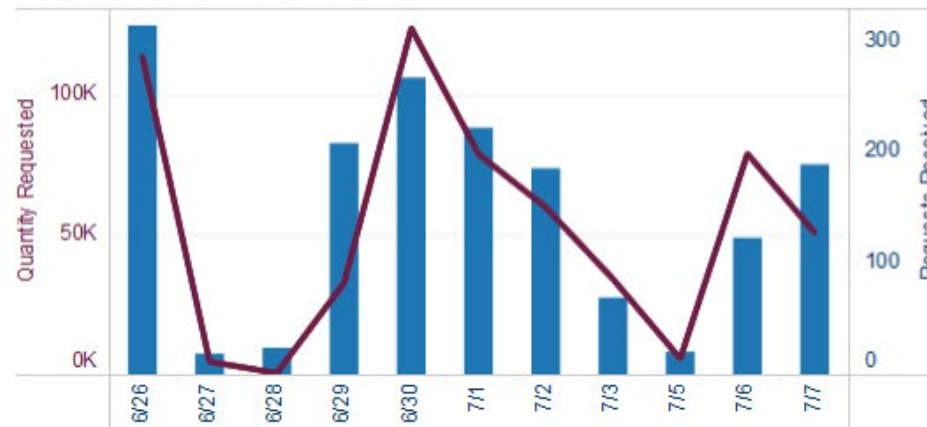


PPE Distribution

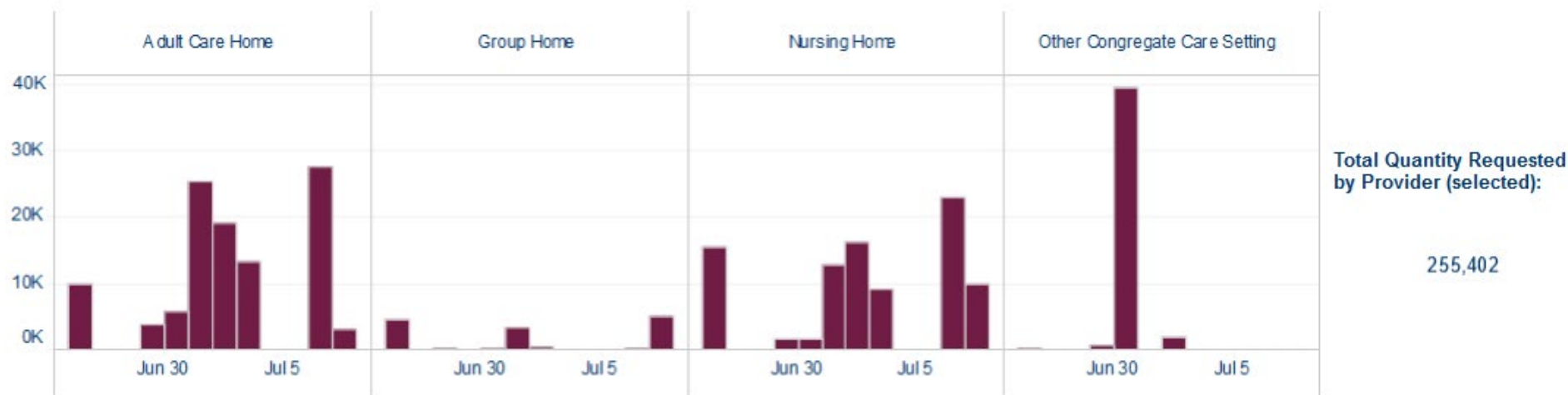
Quantity Requested by County | County: All



Requests Over Time | County: All



Quantity Requested by Provider Type





NC Medicaid's Goals Related to Congregate Care/LTSS COVID-19 Response

To support COVID-related response and needs among facility-based and community LTSS providers, by leveraging Medicaid resources to:

- Effectively support the care of COVID+ residents.
- Accommodate needs related to hospital discharge surge.
- Reduce transmission through effective infection management and prevention.
- Increase service flexibility for provider networks impacted by crisis.

COVID-Specific Rate Adjustments Extended

In previous Special Bulletins, NC Medicaid communicated it would evaluate extending COVID-related rate adjustments beyond June 30, 2020.

- Special Bulletin COVID-19 #107, Continuation of COVID 19 Enhanced Rates released on Wednesday, July 8, 2020.
- NC Medicaid will continue to evaluate evolving circumstances but anticipates keeping the current temporary enhanced rates in place through September 2020.
- NC Medicaid will provide updates through subsequent bulletins and reassess both needs and available funding.
- For more information: NCTracks Contact Center: 800-688-6696

For LME-MCO specific funding arrangements, please contact applicable LME-MCO.



NC Secures Approval for Potential New LTSS Flexibilities

On June 25, 2020 the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) approved NC's Medicaid Disaster 1115 waiver, which will enable NC Medicaid to implement additional LTSS flexibilities if needed during the state of emergency.

Flexibilities may include:

- i. Expedited eligibility.
- ii. Authorization to provide services in alternative settings.
- iii. Retainer payments for applicable personal care and habilitation service providers.
- iv. Temporary modification to functional assessment process.

These flexibilities will supplement flexibilities already provided.

NC DHB will be releasing service-specific guidance, as appropriate, through upcoming Special Bulletins.

For more information, please contact: Medicaid.covid19@dhhs.nc.gov

COVID Special Bulletins Released since Last Webinar



Special Medicaid Bulletins

Bulletins Specific to COVID-19

All available at: <https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/about-us/covid-19-guidance-and-resources/providers>

- [SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #107: Continuation of COVID-19 Enhanced Rates](#) - July 8, 2020
- [SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #106: Federal Relief Funding Webcast and Deadline Reminder](#) - July 8, 2020
- [SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #105: NC Medicaid Receives Approval for Expanded Flexibilities for Home and Community Services - NC Innovations and NC TBI Waivers](#) - July 8, 2020
- [SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #104: Archived Dental Webinars Available](#) - July 1, 2020
- [SPECIAL BULLETIN COVID-19 #103: Telehealth and Virtual Patient Communications Clinical Policy Modifications - Nursing Facility Care](#) - June 25, 2020

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Questions from this Medicaid Update?



About Hardship
Advancements

Medicaid.Hardships@dhhs.nc.gov

About COVID-related
Rate Increases

[NCTracks Contact Center: 800-688-6696](tel:800-688-6696)

About Reports Required
of Outbreak and
Response Facilities

Medicaid.ProviderReimbursement@dhhs.nc.gov

About COVID-related
flexibilities in Medicaid
Policy

Medicaid.covid19@dhhs.nc.gov

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Q & A

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