TO: All Nursing Homes and Nursing Home Care Partners
FROM: Commissioner Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
CC: Deputy Commissioner Heather Aaron, MPH, LNHA
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DATE: November 30, 2020
Subject: Point Prevalence Testing for Nursing Homes

As you know, the Department of Public Health has detected elevated rates of COVID-19 positive individuals in Connecticut’s communities, along with a rise in COVID positive residents, and staff in nursing homes. During the holiday season, families often visit with their loved ones in long-term care communities, which may place some residents in high-risk situations.

In consideration of the health and safety of all residents and staff in the long-term care setting, the Department is requiring all nursing homes, who are not conducting outbreak testing, to conduct point prevalence testing of all residents once between December 1 through December 15 utilizing the facility’s current Care Partner. If a facility is conducting outbreak testing, residents who have not tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days should be tested weekly.

As the state works to limit the spread of COVID-19, this testing and continued infection prevention and control measures may help control outbreaks in facilities.