



Indiana  
Department  
of  
Health

## Long-term Care NEWSLETTER

LTC Newsletter 2022-41

Nov. 17, 2022

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### LTC Update:

- CDC Health Advisory Related to Elevated Respiratory Disease Incidence
- PPE Still Available to Order Through Langham

### CDC Health Advisory Related to Elevated Respiratory Disease Incidence

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a [Health Alert Network](#) (HAN) Health Advisory on Nov 4, about early, elevated respiratory disease incidence caused by multiple viruses especially affecting children, and placing strain on healthcare systems. Co-circulation of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), influenza viruses, SARS-CoV-2, and others could place stress on healthcare systems this fall and winter. **This early increase in disease incidence highlights the importance of optimizing respiratory virus prevention and treatment measures, including prompt vaccination and antiviral treatment.**

1. Please offer [influenza vaccine](#) and [COVID-19 vaccines or boosters](#) for eligible individuals as soon as possible.
2. For those with suspected or confirmed influenza, start [treatment](#) with medications as early as possible. Treatment can be started while awaiting the results of influenza testing. Antiviral treatment is recommended as soon as possible for any patient with suspected or confirmed influenza who
  - is hospitalized, or
  - has severe, complicated, or progressive illness; or
  - is at higher risk for influenza complications.

3. Offer [COVID-19 treatment](#) for confirmed cases based on the eligibility criteria. The COVID-19 therapeutics locator can be accessed [here](#).
4. Remember to practice infection prevention principles such as hand hygiene. Avoid overcrowding in indoor spaces. Ensure adequate ventilation when holding gatherings, which is particularly important during the holiday season.
5. Test for pathogens promptly based on symptoms. Practice transmission-based precautions based on symptoms and/or diagnosis.

### **PPE Still Available to Order Through Langham**

IDOH still has an abundant supply of PPE available for LTC facilities to order for residents, staff or visitors. Facilities may order any as much of any available item as they would like. COVID-19 testing kits are no longer available.

[IDOH Order Entry Portal Guide Instructions](#)

[Access Langham Portal \(Sign In\)](#)