



This is an official Oklahoma Health Alert

Network Health Notification

September 24, 2020

OKHAN_325-2020-09-24-UPD-N

Reference: OK-HAN_318

Updated: Hospital Discharge to Long Term Care Facilities Guidance

Summary

Patients with NO History of COVID-19 eligible for discharge to a LTC facility

- The receiving facility may request one COVID-19 test be performed PRIOR to discharge, UNLESS the person was tested at time of admission or during an inpatient stay of 14 days or less.
 - If the person was tested at hospital admission or during inpatient stay of 14 days or less, additional testing is not warranted and should not be requested
- Results that are unavailable at time of discharge should not impede admission/readmission to LTCF. Residents with an **unknown** (or **negative**) COVID-19 status require a 14 day quarantine with the use of full PPE upon admission per CDC Guidelines
- If **Positive** in the past 14 days, they will be discharged to one of the following LTC facilities (in priority order):
 - 1) Originating LTCF if capacity permits (staffing, supplies, and ability to cohort)
 - 2) Local LTCF with cohorting of COVID-19 positive residents
 - 3) COVID-19 positive transitional care facility (Enid/Tulsa/OKC)

Patients with POSITIVE history of COVID-19 and eligible for discharge to a LTC Facility

- The receiving facility may not request a COVID-19 test be performed at discharge:
 - If patient enters the hospital and has a COVID-19 positive test at admission or during their stay, they will be discharged according to the guidance above for **Positive** residents.
 - If patients enters the hospital with a COVID-19 positive history that is <90 days from infection, they will be discharged to the long term care facility and do not require a 14 day quarantine.
- The receiving facility may request a COVID-19 test be performed at discharge if patient enters the hospital with a COVID-19 positive history that is >90 days from the previous infection. They will be discharged according to guidance above for patients with no history of COVID-19 infection.

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Oklahoma State Department of Health / Acute Disease Service / 1000 NE 10th St, Oklahoma City, OK 73117
405-271-4060(ph) / 405-271-6680 (fax) <http://ads.health.ok.gov>



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- Testing to determine resolution of infection³ is not generally recommended to determine duration of transmission-based precautions for residents.
- Symptom-based strategy should be used to determine when to discontinue Transmission-Based Precautions. Consultation with local infectious diseases experts is recommended if concerns exist for residents being infectious for more than 20 days.
- Test-based strategy, which requires 2 consecutive negative RT-PCR tests obtained no less than 24 hours apart and improvement of symptoms, could be considered for discontinuing Transmission-Based Precautions earlier than the symptom-based strategy. However, in most cases, this results in prolonged isolation of residents who continue to shed detectable SARS-CoV-2 RNA but are *no longer infectious*.

¹See CDC's *Considerations for new admissions or readmissions to the facility in Responding to Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Nursing Homes* (i.e., individual has not met the 10/20 day post-infection timeframe and reduction in symptoms and needs to be placed into a COVID-19 Care Unit)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/nursing-homes-responding.html>

² See CDC's *Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Disposition of Patients with COVID-19 in Healthcare Settings (Interim Guidance)*

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-hospitalized-patients.html>

³See CDC's *Testing to determine resolution of infection in Testing Guidelines for Nursing Homes*

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/nursing-homes-testing.html>

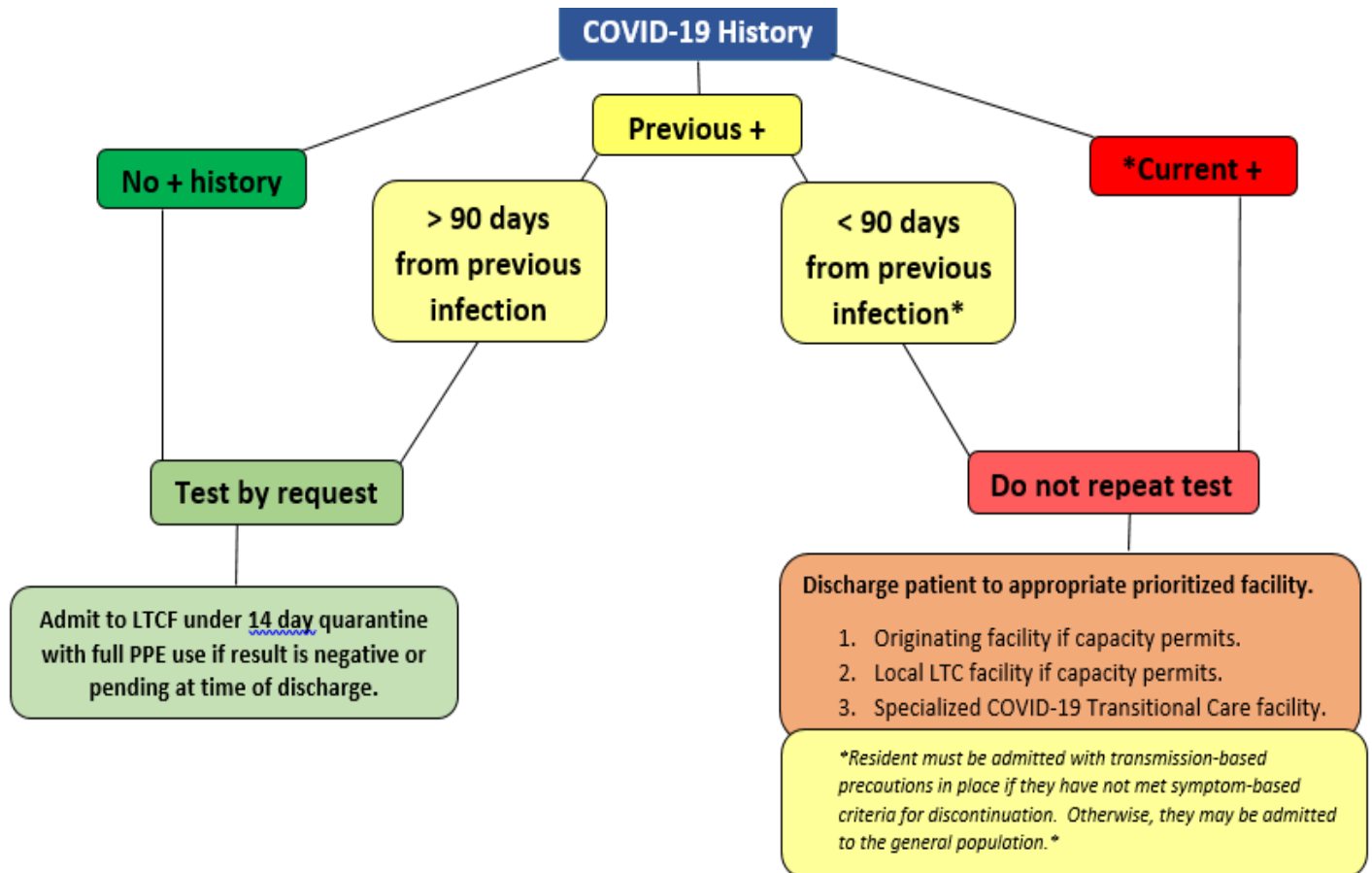
**## This message has been distributed to Primary Care and Infectious Disease
Physicians, Laboratorians, Infection Preventionists, Urgent Care Centers,
Emergency Departments, and State and Local Health Officials ##**



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Hospital Discharge to Long Term Care Facilities



The Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) Acute Disease Service (ADS) is now using 4 types of documents to provide important information to medical and public health professionals, and to other interested persons:

Categories of Health Alert messages:

Health Alert

Provides vital, time-sensitive information for a specific incident or situation; warrants immediate action or attention by health officials, laboratorians, clinicians, and members of the public and conveys the highest level of importance.

Health Advisory

Provides important information for a specific incident or situation; contains recommendations or actionable items to be performed by public health officials, laboratorians, and/or clinicians; may not require immediate action.

Health Update

Provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate attention.

Health Info/Event

Provides general public health information; unlikely to require immediate action.

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