

Bulletin #28 • March 10, 2021

N95 Fit Testing Resources Available for Assisted Living Staff

DHS released the following memo on January 22, 2021. *i*Care was notified by DHS that kits are still available for providers who are interested.

If you would like to receive an N95 fit testing kit, please complete and submit this brief survey as soon as possible.

https://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/6160057/ALF-N95-Fit-Testing-Kit-Request

The <u>CDC</u> and <u>OSHA</u> recommend the use of a fit-tested N95 respirator by healthcare personnel caring for residents suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 to assist in controlling the spread among long-term care populations. In conjunction with the Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene (WSLH), the Department of Health Services (DHS) will be providing respiratory protection resources for Assisted Living Facilities (ALF), including <u>instructional videos</u> on Respiratory Protection Programs and fit testing, a <u>pre-fit test checklist</u>, and other training webinars.

As part of this initiative, WSLH and DHS are also assembling fit testing kits for long-term care facilities without current fit testing capacity. Although N95 respirators are available, the kits to perform fit testing are in short supply, so the state is purchasing as many of the bulk supplies as possible and assembling fit testing kits with disposable hoods.

In preparation for receiving a fit testing kit, facilities should review and complete the <u>pre-fit</u> <u>test checklist</u>. This checklist covers the range of respiratory protection processes associated with respirator fit testing and use, including developing a respiratory protection plan that

N95 fit testing kits will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. If your facility would benefit from receiving a fit testing kit, it is important to complete the <u>survey</u> as soon as possible. There is a limited supply available and we will not have enough kits for each ALF at this time. As additional kits become available, we will continue to fill requests.

Thank you for your continued efforts and support.

Help spread the word!

Please forward this email to others in your organization who need this information.

Additional iCare resources for providers:

- COVID-19 updates
- Provider web page
- Subscribe to future e-blasts/e-newsletters (scroll down on page)
- iCare News







