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Hospital/LTC Discharge Reminder / AHCA Certification to Submit Hospital Data to HHS

Hospital Testing of LTC Patients Prior to Discharge

Please be aware that the hospital rule for testing residents prior to discharge to a long-term care facility ([Emergency Rule 59AER20-8](#)) must continue to be followed. Every hospital must test any long-term care facility resident whose COVID-19 status is unknown prior to discharging the individual to any long-term care facility. The individual can be discharged prior to receipt of the test result. The long term care facility should follow CDC guidance regarding quarantine for an unknown status until the test result is returned. The rule was published August 5, 2020 and remains in effect for 90 days.

Hospital HHS Data

The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has certified the Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) to submit hospital data collected in the Emergency Status System (ESS) to HHS for the COVID-19 reporting requirements. This certification ([COVID-19 State Reporting Certification](#)) eliminates duplicative hospitals reporting. Hospitals must submit data to the Agency's ESS to comply with federal reporting requirements and will not be required to submit directly to HHS.

The Agency for Health Care Administration is committed to better health care for all Floridians. The Agency administers Florida's Medicaid program, licenses and regulates more than 44,000 health care facilities and 53 health plans, and publishes health care data and statistics at www.FloridaHealthFinder.gov. Additional information about Agency initiatives is available via [Facebook \(AHCAFlorida\)](#), [Twitter \(@AHCA_FL\)](#) and [YouTube \(/AHCAFlorida\)](#).