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## **Hospital Testing for Long-Term Care Transfers Rule Update**

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To prevent the spread of COVID-19 at long-term care and residential facilities, the Agency for Health Care Administration issued [Emergency Rule 59AER20-11](#). This rule replaces the previous Emergency Rule 59AER20-8 related to hospital discharge requirements to long-term care facilities. Revisions to the rule extend the hospital discharge requirements for another 90 days.

The rule continues to prohibit a hospital from discharging any resident who has tested positive for COVID-19 or is exhibiting symptoms consistent with COVID-19 to any long-term care facility until the resident has been cleared for discharge, unless the receiving facility has a dedicated wing, unit, or building with dedicated staff to accept the COVID-19 positive resident.

*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](http://www.FloridaHealthFinder.gov). Additional information about Agency initiatives is available via [Facebook \(AHCAFlorida\)](#), [Twitter \(@AHCA\\_FL\)](#) and [YouTube \(/AHCAFlorida\)](#).*

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