

***This email is intended for Facility and Group users of the Long-term Care Component.***

Dear NHSN Users,

Below is important information regarding modifications to the Long-term Care Component. The changes described below will be available within the NHSN application after the September 2024 NHSN release on **9/30/2024**. Resources on the [NHSN LTCF Respiratory Pathogens and Vaccination Module](#) webpage will be updated with revised forms, instructions, FAQs, CSV templates, and file layout documents.

### **Respiratory Pathogens and Vaccination (RPV) Module**

Beginning on 9/30/2024, facilities will report all LTC Resident data on a single, newly combined RPV reporting form. **COVID-19 case, hospitalization, and vaccination reporting remain required**. Influenza and RSV reporting remain optional.

Facilities can report the following data elements on **1 form**:

- Weekly Census
- Cumulative Vaccination Coverage
  
- COVID-19 (2024-2025)
- Influenza (2024-2025)
- RSV
  
- New Resident Cases and Hospitalizations by Vaccination Status
- COVID-19
- Influenza
- RSV

### **Requirements for weekly reporting have not changed**

- Influenza and RSV fields remain optional
- Note: Pathway Data Reporting forms for positive cases of COVID-19, Flu, and RSV of LTC residents will be retired (and replaced by the combined RPV Form).
  
- Facilities can view and edit data reported within the pathways for dates prior to 9/30.
- Facilities can submit new data within the pathways for any date prior to 9/30.
- The data reporting for positive cases of COVID-19 LTC staff and personnel will be retired.

**Training:** Please use the registration links at the bottom of this page to participate in the upcoming trainings!

***How does this affect the resident Person-Level COVID-19 Vaccination Form?***

- The person-level form for residents will auto-populate questions 1-2a of the summary form on the “view reporting summary and submit” screen. Users can directly enter data for the remaining questions before saving.
- Saving and submitting without entering data for required COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations will result in the record saving as “partially complete”. This is indicated in the Vaccination Summary, where a calendar week with partially completed data will display in purple. The week will remain in purple until all required fields are completed.

### Up to Date Definition Changes for COVID-19

- Beginning **September 30, 2024**, individuals are considered **up to date** if they have **received a single dose of the 2024-2025 updated COVID-19 vaccine**.
- Under the new recommendations, **most individuals will not be up to date with COVID-19 vaccines until they receive the 2024-2025 updated COVID-19 vaccine**.
- Facilities should report **zero (0)** up to date until individuals receive the 2024-2025 updated COVID-19 vaccine.
- Updates to the surveillance up to date definition for each quarter can be found here: [Understanding Key Terms and Up to Date Vaccination \(cdc.gov\)](#).

### ***How should facilities document the new 2024-2025 updated COVID-19 vaccine in the Person-Level COVID-19 Vaccination Form?***

- The 2024-2025 updated COVID-19 vaccine was **approved by the FDA** on August 22, 2024. However, the NHSN application will not be updated to include the new vaccines until September 30, 2024.
- If an individual receives the updated 2024-2025 COVID-19 vaccine before September 30, 2024, and you are entering data for weeks before September 30, 2024, please select the 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine for the time being. On September 30, 2024, the NHSN application will be automatically updated to change doses received after August 22, 2024, to the 2024-2025 updated COVID-19 vaccine. These individuals will be counted as up to date beginning on September 30, 2024.
- Additional dose columns (**doses 8-10**) have been added to the optional HPS person level form to accommodate for the new 2024-2025 **updated** COVID-19 vaccine.

### **LTCF HAI Module (UTI and LabID) and POC Test Reporting Tool**

#### **Update! Gender Identity and Sex at Birth**

Sex at Birth is an optional field in all of the Resident screens, Staff screens, Person-Level Forms, and to the Resident/Staff/Visitor section of the POC Test Result Reporting page.

Available options:

- Male

- Female
- Unknown

Gender Identity is an optional field in all of the Event screens (LabID, UTI, and POC Test Result reporting) and Person-Level Forms. This is a multi-select variable with the exception of “Asked but unknown”.

Available options:

- Male
- Female
- Female-to-male transgender
- Male-to-female transgender
- Identifies as non-conforming
- Other
- Asked but unknown

### **Point of Care (POC) Test Reporting Tool**

All person-level forms will now include **optional** data fields for reporting gender identity and sex at birth. The addition of these fields will advance NHSN’s goals towards improving diversity, inclusion, and equity. The ability to upload csv files with these **optional** data fields is now available.

### **Upcoming Trainings**

#### **Webinar dates and registration**

**Topic: LTCF Respiratory Pathogens Module: Updates to Resident Data Collection Form and Up to Date Definition for Weekly COVID-19 Vaccination Data Reporting of Healthcare Personnel and Residents**

**When:** September 24, 2024, 1:00 PM Eastern Time (US & Canada) (Initial Webinar)

**Register in advance for this webinar:**

[https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_iGDEZDj5S1ymG4J9cfiK\\_A](https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_iGDEZDj5S1ymG4J9cfiK_A)

**When: October 1, 2024, 1:00 PM Eastern Time (US & Canada) (Webinar Replay)**

**Register in advance for this webinar:**

[https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_QU63La9WRb2D1OqZmimYtA](https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_QU63La9WRb2D1OqZmimYtA)

**Topic: NHSN Person-Level Vaccination Forms: Quarter 4 2024 Updates for Long-Term Care Facilities (Initial Webinar)**

**When: October 2, 2024, 1:00 pm Eastern Time (US & Canada)**

**Register in advance for this webinar:**

[https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_0WN7oGo7T1W55nycjDwx1Q](https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_0WN7oGo7T1W55nycjDwx1Q)

**When: October 9, 2024 1:00 PM Eastern Time ( US & Canada) (Webinar Replay)**

**Register in advance for this webinar:**

[https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_Ed-FwlvxSYCawvm5qGxL\\_Q](https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_Ed-FwlvxSYCawvm5qGxL_Q)

**When:** October 16, 2024, 1:00 PM Eastern Time ( US & Canada) (Webinar Replay)

**Register in advance for this webinar:**

[https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_zDL7rE6gSb2ESacv2bxvYA](https://cdc.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_zDL7rE6gSb2ESacv2bxvYA)

**After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about joining the webinar.**

Please use NHSN-ServiceNow to submit questions to the NHSN Help Desk. The portal can be accessed here or through your CDC Secure Access Management Services (SAMS) account. After logging into SAMS, the NHSN-ServiceNow is located at the bottom at the bottom of the page.

Thank you for your partnership,

The NHSN LTCF Team