

COVID-19 TESTING: QUESTIONS TO ASK POTENTIAL TESTING VENDORS

Updated: June 3, 2020

- What is their experience with RT-PCR testing? (*do they have references from LTC providers?*)
What information can they provide on test accuracy?
- What is their capacity for a baseline point prevalence study (residents and staff) and capacity for follow-up testing?
- What is the turn-around time for processing tests – average and range? How will they manage turn-around time if demand increases?
- What is the process for sending specimens to the lab? What paperwork and preparation work is involved, e.g., physician order, lab slips, consents, insurance information, handling and shipping of specimens, contact information for results – how will results be communicated? What are they responsible for managing; what steps are your responsibility?
- What is the cost for processing tests? What is the cost for specimen collection?
- Are they able to directly bill Medicare? Are they able to directly bill private insurance? Do they bill for specimen collection and processing? Are there any additional fees? What is the process for costs that are not covered by insurance?
- Do they offer options for collecting and processing specimens? If they offer an option to provide specimen collection services:
 - What is their capacity for specimen collection, i.e., how many specimens over what period of time?
 - Who will be collecting the specimens?
 - What is their experience in collecting specimens? Do they have experience with testing in a nursing home or assisted living setting?
 - Will they provide PPE for specimen collection or are you responsible for PPE?
 - What is their process for specimen collection – what are they responsible for managing; what steps are your responsibility?
 - What is the turn-around time between contracting and being on-site?