

Long-Term Care Hospital Admissions and Transfers

November 6, 2020

This guidance is issued in response to the continued rise in COVID-19 cases in staff residents of long-term care facilities throughout New Mexico. Additionally, the state has implemented crisis staffing protocols for long-term care facilities in order to maintain safe and adequate staffing for facilities experiencing a COVID-19 outbreak.

1. Hot-Spots are defined as those facilities with a new COVID-19 infection among **any positive staff OR, in a facility onset resident case.**
2. Testing is not required for hospital transfer and admissions.
3. Facilities who accept COVID-19 positive new admissions are **not designated a hot-spot** based on that positive resident admission because this is **not a facility onset infection.**
4. If a facility accepts a hospital transfer who becomes COVID-19 positive while in the quarantine observation unit (warm zone) is not a facility onset infection and therefore **not** a designated hot spot.
5. Facilities may continue to accept admissions and transfers regardless of whether a current transfer becomes COVID-19 positive while in the quarantine observation unit.

NOTE: Facilities should continue to notify the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman of any COVID-19 positive admission