# **Policy**

To cooperate and abide by COVID-19 testing for staff as required by The Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) and The Ohio Department of Health (ODH).

# **COVID-19 Symptoms**

1. For confirmed coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases, reported illnesses have ranged from mild symptoms to severe illness and death. Symptoms can include, but are not limited to:
	1. Fever
	2. Cough
	3. Shortness of breath
	4. Malaise and fatigue
	5. Muscle aches
	6. Loss of taste and smell
	7. Nausea, vomiting and/or diarrhea
	8. Sore throat has also been reported in some patients early in the clinical course

# **Procedure**

1. Personnel will notify Infection Preventionist, Director of Nursing, or Administrator before reporting to work if they have symptoms of a respiratory infection.
2. If any staff members develop signs/symptoms of a respiratory infection while at work, that individual should take the following steps:
	1. Immediately discontinue working
	2. Self-isolate at home for the recommended time
	3. Inform the facility’s Infection Preventionist
	4. Provide information regarding any individuals, equipment, and locations that the staff member had come into contact with over the last 48 hours.
	5. Contact the local health department and follow its recommendations for next steps

3. COVID-19 staff testing:

 a. The Director’s order states “each nursing home licensed by the ODH or certified by the

 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Centers for Medicare and

 Medicaid Services (CMS), or the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) shall cooperate

 with the COVID-19 testing for staff and residents as required by ODH.

4. To prevent the spread of COVID-19: Each nursing facility will have all employees and

 residents tested. A resident may refuse testing, per their resident rights.

 a. If a part-time or full-time employee refuse to be tested, they are treated as positive

 without symptoms and must quarantine for 10 days. If they refuse a second time it is

 presumed their resignation. For contingent staff, they would not be scheduled to work

 until they complied with next testing schedule.