

Post-Acute Regional Rapid Testing Program

Mission: to provide a reliable process for COVID-19 swab testing for nursing facilities, including skilled nursing, long term care and assisted living facilities in central Ohio (defined as Franklin County and contiguous counties including Delaware, Fairfield, Knox, Licking, Madison, Pickaway and Union counties) through a collaborative effort between the Ohio Department of Health, National Church Residences, Ohio Living, LeadingAge Ohio, local and county health departments, Ohio Health Care Association and Central Ohio Geriatrics.

What are the Components of the PARRT Program?

1. Dedicated Call Center: National Church Residences will be staffing a call center 7 days a week during the hours of 8:00am to 6:00pm and which will be assisting you through the process of having your patient/resident tested for COVID-19 if basic symptomatic criteria are met. The Ohio Department of Health is not recommending or able to test individuals who do not have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 infections, including potential “carrier” states due to possible exposure to other residents or staff.
2. Swab Team: A Swab Team of a medical and/or non-medical personnel (based on need) will be dispatched to your facility with appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and a COVID swab. You will not be expected to provide PPE (unless you have it for your staff).

How Do You Activate the PAART Program to Have Swab Testing Done at Your Facility?

1. Call the PARRT Call Center at **888-344-9222** if you have a patient/resident who you suspect might have signs and/or symptoms of COVID-19 infection AND you have a physician’s order to obtain a Nasopharyngeal (NP swab).
2. You will be asked to provide basic demographic information of your facility (name, address, County, type of facility, fax number, employee point of contact and point of contact’s phone number), patient/resident information (name, date of birth, unit and room number and name of physician ordering the NP swab) and signs and/or symptoms consistent with COVID-19 infection.
3. The PARRT Program will facilitate communication and registration with the Ohio Department of Health and dispatch a swab team to your facility as soon as possible to obtain a NP swab and transport it to the ODH Testing Laboratory for expedited processing. (Please note – you will NOT need to call your local or county health department or the Ohio Department of Health. This program is meant to diminish the number of calls you need to make and these agencies need to answer during this health care crisis).

What Will You Need to Do While You are Waiting for the PARRT Swab Team to Arrive at Your Facility?

1. If not already done so, the patient should be immediately placed in respiratory (droplet) isolation and facility staff should wear personal protective equipment (surgical mask, eye protection, gloves, gown, with optional items, including shoe and hair covers) while working with the resident.
2. An appropriate waste receptacle should be placed in the resident’s room next to the door for appropriate collection of PPE as exiting the room.
3. The Call Center will call you with an approximate time of arrival of the Swab Team to the facility and a ODH EPI Approval Code which should be added to the Microbiology Specimen Submission Form (ODH Form HEA 2530) under the Comments Section. In order to improve the efficiency of this program, please fill out this form *prior* to the arrival of the Swab Team. This form will be taken to the Ohio Department of Health with the swab sample.