



Department of Health Guidance Development Overview for Long-Term Care Council

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The Technical Planning and Guidance Development (TPGD) Team

- Established March 18, 2020 by Secretary Levine to develop timely, actionable, and proactive guidance to meet the needs of facilities, providers, and other key stakeholders during the COVID-19 pandemic
 - This includes Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs)
 - Our team collaborates with the Department of Human Services (DHS) to issue complimentary guidance to Personal Care Homes (PCH), Assisted Living Residences (ALR) and Intermediate Care Facilities (ICF)
- Interdisciplinary, inter-agency team members with regular meeting schedule, goals and objectives
- Consult with other agencies on guidance for their facilities, as requested

Guidance Development Inputs*

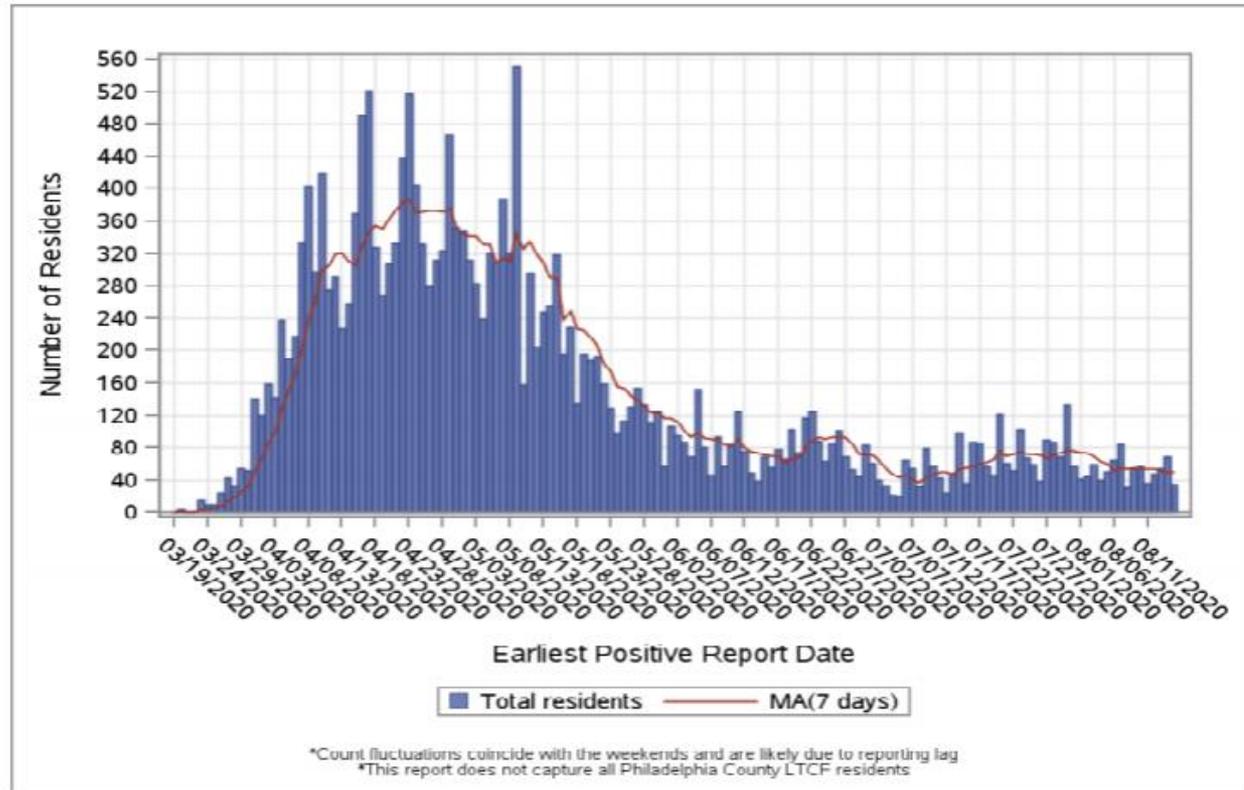
COVID-19 CHALLENGE RECOGNIZED



*Not an exhaustive list depending on the topic

Data – LTCF Data Dashboard

REPORTED TOTAL COVID-19 POSITIVE RESIDENTS of ALL DOH AND DHS LICENSED LTCFs AND 7-DAY MOVING AVERAGE*



Guidance Issued to Date

- Adhere to a philosophy of “continuous process improvement” based on the latest authoritative clinical, data-driven, and qualitative information available
 - That changes over the course of the response, so our guidance does, too
- Latest guidance for SNFs issued June 26th and reissued with small tweaks on July 20, 2020
 - This guidance provides a pathway for visitation
- Summarized in the “Weekly Wrap-Up” provided to council members

Upcoming Changes to Guidance

- Analyzing options to expand visitation
- Finalizing a “screening testing strategy” for continuous testing even when the facility is not experiencing an outbreak
- Identifying ways to streamline the guidance for easier understanding
- Changing language on Ombudsman access