

Avow COVID Testing

COVID Testing at Avow is available weekly. Staff seeing patients in any nursing home will need to be tested for COVID-19 **every 7 days** or more frequently. Avow weekly testing will occur on Tuesdays from 6:00 AM to 10:00 AM. You will receive communication from your supervisor if your testing schedule has changed.

We are updating our COVID testing requirements as Covid-19 increases in the county. Mandatory testing is as follows:

- Weekly – all staff entering Skilled Nursing Facilities – some facilities are requiring twice weekly testing.
- Weekly – all staff providing care at Hospice House or working directly in Hospice House until further notice.
- Every other week – **all** staff coming onsite to Avow or working in the community for Avow. In the past testing was only required for staff coming onsite and interacted with the clinical teams. Testing is now required for **all** staff coming onsite regardless of direct interaction with clinical team members.
- No testing - staff working completely remote do not need to come in for testing.

The next weekly onsite testing is Tuesday, November 24th. The next every other week testing is December 1st.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Reminder

This is a reminder of the following:

All clinical staff that come within 6 feet of a patient ***must*** wear appropriate eye protection (goggles or face shield) and a mask (minimum surgical mask) unless the patient is on isolation precautions which specify additional/other PPE. As a note, glasses don't count as adequate eye protection. If you are seeing a patient who is COVID-positive or under investigation for COVID, please wear full PPE (N95 or KN95 mask, gown, gloves, and eyewear). If you are entering a "hotspot" facility, please wear at minimum a N95/KN95 mask and eyewear. Please use only Avow-provided, approved PPE.

Some eye protection is disposable and some reusable. Below is a reminder of how to clean eyewear for reuse:

1. While wearing gloves, carefully wipe the *inside*, followed by the *outside* of the face shield or goggles using a clean cloth saturated with neutral detergent solution or cleaner wipe.
2. Carefully wipe the *outside* of the face shield or goggles using a wipe or clean cloth saturated with disinfectant solution.
3. Wipe the outside of face shield or goggles with clean water or alcohol to remove residue.
4. Fully dry (air dry or use clean absorbent towels).
5. Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene.

Please contact Employee Health for any questions.

Flu Shots

Flu shots are now offered to Avow staff and volunteers by Employee Health on an appointment basis only. Please contact employeehealth@avowcares.org to make an appointment or submit proof of flu documentation. You may also bring documentation to Tina Gosling/Chantel Emery's office (on the first floor Lyon Center next to the computer lab). [The deadline for Avow employees to get a flu shot has passed. If you have not received a flu shot at Avow or submitted documentation of receiving one elsewhere for the upcoming flu season, please contact Employee Health.](#)

Many symptoms of the flu are the same as those for COVID-19. This year, even more than ever, it is important to get your flu shot. Please be sure to see the Avow Influenza training assigned to you for the month of September in Relias and reach out to the Employee Health department with questions.

In-Person Meetings and Working On-Site

Collier County is beginning to see increases in COVID-19 case counts, percent positives testing rates, and visits to the emergency departments at local hospitals as a result of flu-like and COVID-like symptoms. As the third wave of COVID-19 begins to infiltrate Florida Avow will continue to be diligent in protecting our patients and staff. From this point forward all meetings should occur via Zoom. Any other absolutely necessary in-person meeting will have to be approved by a member of the Executive team. Working on-site should also be reserved for absolutely necessary activities based on department and job specific requirements. If you have any questions please reach out to your manager or executive leader.

COVID and the Holidays

With the holidays approaching, it is important to plan ahead to ensure safe activities. The CDC has provided recommendations for the Thanksgiving holiday.

See below from the CDC website:

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a time when many families travel long distances to celebrate together. [Travel](#) increases the chance of getting and spreading the virus that causes COVID-19. Staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others. If you must travel, be informed of the [risks involved](#).

Lower risk activities

- Having a small [dinner](#) with only people who live in your household
- Preparing traditional family recipes for family and neighbors, especially those at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19, and delivering them in a way that doesn't involve contact with others
- Having a virtual dinner and sharing recipes with friends and family
- Shopping online rather than in person on the day after Thanksgiving or the next Monday
- Watching sports events, parades, and movies from home

Moderate risk activities

- Having a small outdoor [dinner](#) with family and friends who live in your community
 - Lower your risk by following CDC's recommendations on [hosting gatherings or cook-outs](#).
- Visiting pumpkin patches or orchards where people use hand sanitizer before touching pumpkins or picking apples, wearing masks is encouraged or enforced, and people are able to maintain social distancing
- Attending a small outdoor sports events with safety precautions in place

Higher risk activities

Avoid these higher risk activities to help prevent the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19:

- Going shopping in crowded stores just before, on, or after Thanksgiving
- Participating or being a spectator at a crowded race
- Attending crowded parades
- Using [alcohol or drugs](#), which can cloud judgement and increase risky behaviors
- Attending large indoor gatherings with people from outside of your household

You can find more information on this topic by accessing the following link:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html#thanksgiving>

As a note, this link also includes information on travel during the holidays.

Employee Health Calendar

Rabon Moore ICO 16 PPD, Flu Shots and FIT Test by appointment	Rabon Moore ICO 17 PPD, Flu Shots and FIT Test by appointment	Rabon Moore ICO 18 PPD, Flu Shots and FIT Test by appointment	Rabon Moore ICO 19 PPD, Flu Shots and FIT Test by appointment	Rabon Moore ICO 20 PPD, Flu Shots and FIT Test by appointment	Rabon Moore ICO 21	Rabon Moore ICO 22
Tina Gosling ICO 23 PPD, Flu Shots and FIT Test by appointment	Tina Gosling ICO 24 PPD, Flu Shots and FIT Test by appointment	Tina Gosling ICO 25 PPD, Flu Shots and FIT Test by appointment	Tina Gosling ICO 26	Tina Gosling ICO 27 PPD, Flu Shots and FIT Test by appointment	Becca Garian ICO 28	Becca Garian ICO 29
Rabon Moore ICO 30 PPD and FIT Test by appointment	Rabon Moore ICO 1 PPD and FIT Test by appointment	Rabon Moore ICO 2 PPD and FIT Test by appointment	Rabon Moore ICO 3 PPD and FIT Test by appointment	Rabon Moore ICO 4 PPD and FIT Test by appointment	Rabon Moore ICO 5	Rabon Moore ICO 6

Collier County Health Metrics



Staff Ordering Lunch on Campus

Please read the information below if ordering a staff meal on campus:

- Staff working on campus must request lunch DAILY with an email or phone call to Meghan Ahlbrandt (Smith Administration Center) or Sue Aceto (Lyon Center) by 9:00 AM to be included in the daily count.
- LATE REQUESTS WILL BE REFUSED and NO STANDING ORDERS.
- Beginning TODAY daily lunch options will include ONLY COLD menu items (below). Standard or vegetarian options are available and menus are subject to change due to product availability.

Monday: Chicken pasta salad

Tuesday : Egg salad sandwich/chips

Wednesday: Chicken salad wraps

Thursday: Ham/turkey sandwiches

Friday: Tuna lettuce wraps

Saturday: Chicken bacon ranch wraps

Sunday: Turkey breast salad sandwiches

Vegetarian option each day will be a green salad.

- Lunches will be available for retrieval from the Smith and Lyon building break room refrigerators at 12:45 PM daily. Meals not retrieved will be disposed of the following day.
- Those working onsite on Saturdays and Sundays should place orders with James Sager.