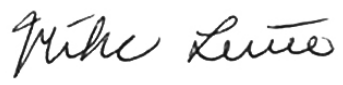




**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**Executive Office of Health and Human Services**  
**Office of Medicaid**  
[www.mass.gov/masshealth](http://www.mass.gov/masshealth)

**MassHealth**  
**Nursing Facility Bulletin 177**  
**April 2023**

**TO:** Nursing Facilities Participating in MassHealth

**FROM:** Mike Levine, Assistant Secretary for MassHealth 

**RE:** **Anticipated Update to COVID-19 Surveillance Testing Supplemental Payments for Nursing Facilities**

**Background**

This bulletin, which supersedes [MassHealth Nursing Facility Bulletin 167](#), notifies nursing facilities of expected upcoming changes to its surveillance testing supplemental payments, effective May 1, 2023.

MassHealth has been paying nursing facilities for surveillance testing conducted in accordance with 101 CMR 206.10 and Department of Public Health (DPH) requirements. On March 13, 2023, DPH announced that nursing facilities will no longer be required to conduct surveillance testing after March 31, 2023. See [Update to Caring for Long-Term Care Residents during the COVID-19 Response, including Visitation Conditions, Communal Dining, and Congregate Activities](#).

**Anticipated End of Surveillance Testing Payments**

Following the updated DPH guidance, MassHealth does not intend to issue surveillance testing payments after April 30, 2023. This change is expected to be finalized through forthcoming amendments to 101 CMR 206.00: *Standard Payments to Nursing Facilities*.

This bulletin is being issued pursuant to 101 CMR 206.10(4)(d): *Additional Guidance* and applies to all nursing facilities that are enrolled as MassHealth providers.

**MassHealth Website**

This bulletin is available on the [MassHealth Provider Bulletins](#) web page.

[Sign up](#) to receive email alerts when MassHealth issues new bulletins and transmittal letters.

**Questions**

If you have questions about the information in this bulletin, please email your inquiry to Pavel Terpelets, at [pavel.terpelets@mass.gov](mailto:pavel.terpelets@mass.gov).