

**From:** Jernigan, John A. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP)  
**Sent:** Mon, 15 Mar 2021 13:39:14 +0000  
**To:** Fischer, Marc (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DPEI)  
**Cc:** Martin, Stacey (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DVBD)  
**Subject:** FW: Management of fully vaccinated residents in LTCF with pos. COVID 19 tests

FYI-we've responded to CDPH.

JJ

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**From:** HAI Outbreak - COVID-19 (CDC) <haicovid@cdc.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 15, 2021 9:06 AM  
**To:** Siegel, Jane (CDC cdpH.ca.gov) <Jane.Siegel@cdph.ca.gov>  
**Cc:** CDC 2019 NCOV Response Lab TF Strain Surveillance Coord <eocevent506@cdc.gov>; HAI Outbreak - COVID-19 (CDC) <haicovid@cdc.gov>; Reddy, Sujana C. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <kuj0@cdc.gov>; Jacobs Slifka, Kara (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <ipf8@cdc.gov>; Jernigan, John A. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <jqj9@cdc.gov>; Laufer Halpin, Alison S. (CDC/DDID/NCEZID/DHQP) <vif0@cdc.gov>; CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Implementation Planning Unit <eocevent480@cdc.gov>; CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Vaccine Breakthrough Team <eocevent531@cdc.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Management of fully vaccinated residents in LTCF with pos. COVID 19 tests

Hi Jane,

We received your question from our lab colleagues.

In both situations, we would recommend that those individuals be treated as infectious (vaccine breakthroughs with high Ct values or vaccine breakthroughs who had prior infection ~90 days ago). Although high viral loads are associated with ability to identify replication competent virus, Ct values are not standardized across platforms and a clear threshold has not been established for this purpose. Especially in the setting of vaccine breakthrough, there is a paucity of data to inform practice at this time. There is an ongoing study of breakthrough infections that involves performing viral culture on these samples. This type of investigation may shed light on the question you are posing. In terms of the use of serology, there has been a suggestion that antibody response is associated with a decreased likelihood of recovering replication competent virus, however to our understanding those types of studies were often performed during earlier phases of infection. We know that antibody positive individuals can become infected, and it is unclear whether antibody response >90 days from initial could help determine the likelihood that the individual is infectious.

Thanks.

Kiran

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**From:** Siegel, Jane@CDPH <Jane.Siegel@cdph.ca.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 11, 2021 6:22 PM  
**To:** CDC IMS 2019 NCOV Response VTF Implementation Planning Unit <eocevent480@cdc.gov>; CDC 2019 NCOV Response Lab TF Strain Surveillance Coord <eocevent506@cdc.gov>  
**Subject:** Management of fully vaccinated residents in LTCF with pos. COVID 19 tests