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**Associations Team Up to Create “Heat Map” of COVID-19 in U.S. Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Communities**

Alexandria, VA and Columbia, MD — ASCP, a membership association that represents pharmacists, health care professionals, and students serving the unique medication needs of older adults, and AMDA – The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care (PALTC) Medicine, which represents physicians, advance practice clinicians, and medical directors across all PALTC settings, have collaborated on a visual representation of the prevalence of COVID-19 within nursing homes and assisted living communities in the United States.

Using publicly available information released by states, as well as information sourced by members of both organizations, a general “heat map” has been created to display the presence of COVID-19 in PALTC at a zip code level. In the coming weeks, when the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) makes public their data from nursing homes and assisted living communities, the heat maps will be updated from this single source of data.

“This information helps in identifying hot spots within the long-term care industry,” said ASCP’s chief executive Chad Worz, PharmD, BCGP. “We hope this tool will make it easier to allocate or position resources, including personal protective equipment, medications, supplies, and personnel.”

“Up until now there hasn’t been an easy or accurate way to track COVID-19 cases in our nation’s nursing homes and assisted living facilities, home to our most vulnerable patient populations,” said Christopher E. Laxton, CAE, AMDA’s executive director. “The heat maps will go a long way toward visualizing this crisis in PALTC, focusing attention where it is most needed, and making things better for our hard-working clinicians and the patients and families they serve.”

*Empowering Pharmacists. Transforming Aging.*

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**About ASCP**

**ASCP: Empowering Pharmacists. Transforming Aging.**

ASCP is a membership association that represents pharmacists, health care professionals, and students serving the unique medication needs of older adults. ASCP is an international organization with members located in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and 12 countries. The society’s mission is to promote healthy aging by empowering pharmacists with education, resources, and innovative opportunities. Learn more at [ASCP.com](https://www.ascp.com).

**About AMDA**

**AMDA – The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term Care Medicine** is the only medical specialty society representing the community of over 50,000 medical directors, physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and other practitioners working in the various post-acute and long-term care (PALTC) settings. Dedicated to defining an improving quality, we advance our mission through timely professional development, evidence-based clinical guidance, and tireless advocacy on behalf of members, patients, families, and staff. Visit [paltc.org](https://www.paltc.org) for more information or contact Ellen Mullally at [emullally@paltc.org](mailto:emullally@paltc.org) or 410-992-3124.