



January 14, 2022

Dear Resident and Family Members,

We are writing to inform you that we have received notification today that two staff members have tested positive for COVID-19. We are currently conducting contact tracing, and will test any residents or staff members who may have been exposed at least twice in the coming days to ensure negative results. If this affects your loved one, his/her designated representative will have been notified by phone.

Over the course of the last week, thirty staff members and fourteen residents have tested positive for COVID-19.

**All visitors must:**

- Wear a well-fitting non-surgical paper mask or a mask of higher quality (i.e., surgical mask, KN95 or N95) at all times during any visitation at the facility. If the visitor wishes, a cloth mask may be placed over the paper mask. The masks must cover both the nose and the mouth.
- Physically distance from facility personnel and other patients/residents/visitors that are not directly associated with the specific resident(s) being visited by that individual.

In addition, all nursing homes licensed and regulated by the New York State Department of Health must verify that visitors have received:

- A negative SARS-CoV-2 test result **one day prior to visitation for antigen tests (e.g Rapid test. Visitor must bring test sample to show proof of negative. Upon verification test sample must be discarded.**
- If a visitor has had COVID in the **past 90 days**, he/she must still be tested. If they test positive, they must be excluded.
- **Two days prior to visitation for NAAT (e.g. PCR) tests.** Visitor must show proof of negative COVID-19 received from PCR lab.

**All visitors may use either NAAT testing or antigen testing.** This means, for example, that a test for a Sunday visit should be conducted no earlier than Saturday if it's an antigen test or Friday if it's a PCR test. Any PCR or antigen test used must either have Emergency Use Authorization by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration or be operating per the Laboratory Developed Test requirements by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

For visitors who visit for multiple days, including a visitor who comes every day, proof of negative testing is required, at a minimum every third day (meaning at a minimum testing is required on day one, day 4, day 7, and so on).

- New York State has provided the facility with over the counter COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test for visitors (**while supplies last**) that do not have valid proof of a negative test conducted in the required timeframe. Upon request, visitors will be provided a COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test to self-test outside of the facility. Upon completion of test, visitor must bring test sample to show proof of negative COVID-19 to be verified by receptionist. **Upon verification test sample must be discarded. If a visitor tests positive outside the building, he/she should not return to the building to display the positive result.**

Sincerely,

Administrator