



VASSAR-WARNER HOME

Positive COVID Results at Vassar-Warner Home

Good afternoon! I hope you are all having a nice, hot and dry summer! It's been a while since I have written you, but I do hope you are receiving the newsletter and keeping up to date with Vassar-Warner Home.

I am writing you today to let you know that yesterday, due to a positive COVID result from a hospitalization, we tested all residents. Four residents received positive results. These four residents are fine and are asymptomatic. All pertinent family members and physicians have been notified. These residents have been quarantined to their rooms where they have commodes and their meals are being delivered to them. Tomorrow (Tuesday 8/30/22) we will retest all but the current 4 residents. As per our local health department, the 4 positive residents will be re-tested after the 5th day, but will remain in isolation until we are advised by Dutchess County or they have been isolated for 10 days, whichever comes first.

So what does that mean...

1. Since the beginning of COVID we have not allowed visitors to eat in the dining room with the residents, as per state guidelines. This will continue.
2. Starting tomorrow, August 30th, all visits must be scheduled. Please call 845-454-3754 to schedule a time. All visits will be either in room 1 or in the conference room (both on 1st floor near the offices). There will be NO visitation in any resident rooms during this period. This is done to limit the amount of visitors in the building at one time.
3. All visits will be a maximum of 2 people plus the resident. In addition, there will only be 2 scheduled, 1-hour visits, at a time so please be flexible.
4. There are certain core principles and best practices that reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission including, but not limited to (all MUST be followed):
 - Screening of all who enter the facility for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., temperature checks, questions about and observations of signs or symptoms), and denial of entry of those with signs or symptoms or those who have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 infection in the prior 14 days (regardless of the visitor's vaccination status).
 - Hand hygiene (use of alcohol-based hand rub is preferred).
 - The use of face coverings or masks (covering mouth and nose).
 - Social distancing at least six feet between persons.
 - Instructional signage throughout the facility and proper visitor education on COVID-19 signs and symptoms, infection control precautions, other applicable facility practices (e.g., use of face covering or mask, specified entries, exits and routes to designated areas, hand hygiene).
 - Cleaning and disinfecting high frequency touched surfaces and designated visitation areas in the facility often, and after each visit.
 - Appropriate staff use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
 - Effective cohorting of residents (e.g., separate areas dedicated to COVID-19 care).
 - Residents in isolation or observation, and residents with suspected or confirmed COVID19 status, irrespective of vaccination status.



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Visitors who are unable to adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention should not be permitted to visit or should be asked to leave. The adult care facility must document this occurrence in accordance with Title 18 of New York Codes, Rules and Regulations, §485.14(h).

As of April 1, 2021, out-of-town visitors traveling from other U.S. states or territories are no longer required to test or quarantine upon arrival in New York State. These travelers are still encouraged to test before entering adult care facilities for visits.

On another note, Maria Yarder, the hair dresser was injured and she will not be returning. Luckily I found someone that works in several nursing facilities in the area. I am hopeful she will be starting Monday 9/12.

We have had an amazing track record over the past 2 1/2 years. I am hopeful that this is a speed-bump and we will be back in the swing of things very soon. As always, should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Be well,

Erica