

December 29, 2021

Dear Residents & Families:

We were notified yesterday and today that two more employees tested positive for COVID-19. One employee was not in direct patient contact and the other employee was working on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor and was wearing an N95 and eye protection for the duration of the shift, therefore there was not a significant exposure. Both employees are at home in isolation in accordance with CDC guidelines. We will continue to test all residents and staff 2x per week and wear N95 masks and face shields in resident care areas.

We do not recommend visitation during an outbreak due to the potential risk of transmission of COVID-19, which can lead to illness, hospitalization, and even death, however visitation during outbreak is now permitted. We ask that visitors conducting visits on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> floors please wear an N-95 mask and face shield and will be educated on the risks of entering during an outbreak on our Accushield. We also ask that residents wear a mask during visits. We are still required to follow the Core Principles of COVID-19 Infection Prevention:

- Visitors who have a positive viral test for COVID-19, symptoms of COVID-19, or currently meet the criteria for quarantine, should not enter the facility. Samaritan Campus will screen all who enter for these visitation exclusions.
- Hand hygiene (use of alcohol-based hand rub is preferred).
- Face covering or mask (covering mouth and nose) and physical distancing at least six feet between people, in accordance with CDC guidance.
- 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 in the facility often, and designated visitation areas after each visit.
- Appropriate staff use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Effective cohorting of residents (e.g., separate areas dedicated to COVID-19 care)
- Resident and staff testing conducted as required at 42CFR § 483.80(h) (see QSO-20-38-NH)

We ask that visitors please go directly to the resident's room and avoid direct contact with other residents and staff (if unnecessary) and that visitors do not congregate in public areas such as dining rooms, the multipurpose room, day rooms, down by the vending machines, etc. We also ask that residents please wear masks during visits. These precautions will mitigate the risk of further transmission.

Additionally, our phone lines are currently only partially working. We are able to receive external calls, but are not able to dial out. We will be utilizing staff cell phones if we need to get a hold of you. Our residents can also use the staff cell phones if they would like to call a family member or loved one.

Please feel free to call our Campus Communication Hotline for any COVID-19 updates – 262-335-4599.

Thank you for your continued understanding and support during this challenging time. We wish you a Happy New Year!

Taya Walk, NHA  
Campus Administrator