

## COVID-19 Updates and Notifications

Dear Residents, Resident Representatives, Resident Loved Ones and Staff,

COVID -19 is a respiratory illness that is spread through coughing, sneezing, and contact with mucus or saliva from the nose, mouth or throat of an infected individual. Older patients and those with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

The visitation guidance provided has been recently updated and indicates the following requirements for all visitation:

- Visitation guidance will be posted at the entrance of the facility advising visitors about recommended actions for visitors who have a positive viral test for COVID-19, symptoms of COVID-19, or have had close contact with someone with COVID-19
- Indoor visitation is allowed however is deferred for non-urgent in-person visitation if the Visitor meets criteria for quarantine per CDC:
  - i. Visitor has had close contact with a COVID positive individual in the last 10 days
  - ii. Visitor has a confirmed COVID-19 infection
  - iii. Visitor has compatible COVID-like symptoms
- Outdoor visitation may occur:
  - When outdoor temperatures are considered safe according to the resident's individual medical condition, COVID-19 Status, quarantine status and plan of care.
  - When conducting outdoor visitation, all appropriate infection control prevention practices to be followed
  - When the visitor(s):
    - Is symptom free
    - Does not have a positive viral test for COVID-19
    - Does not meet criteria for quarantine per CDC guidance
- Medically appropriate masks to be worn by residents (when safe) and visitors, when the county COVID-19 transmission is HIGH and/or in an outbreak, in accordance with CDC guidance.
- Masking is encouraged when the county COVID-19 transmission is not HIGH
- During peak times of visitation and large gatherings (parties, events) visitors are encouraged to physically distance
- Visitors will be encouraged to perform hand hygiene throughout their visit.
- Visitor will limit movement within the facility during an outbreak investigation.
- Residents (their representative) and their visitors may have physical contact in a designated visitation area or when alone in the resident's room however if the roommate is present during the visit, for resident safety, it is recommended the visitor wear a face covering or mask
- Visitors understand there are risks associated with visitation and physical contact, to both the resident as well as themselves.
- Visitors who are unable to adhere to the core principles of infection prevention will not be permitted to visit and/or will be asked to leave

Our facility is currently following the CDC guidelines for COVID 19 testing. Our facility continues to follow all Executive Orders, Centers for Disease Control guidelines and Arizona Department of Health Services regulations for skilled nursing facilities. Our facility also works closely with the Mohave County Public Health and follows their continued guidance in our efforts to keep our residents and staff safe.

Our facility has followed and continues to follow CDC guidelines and everyday preventative actions such as:

- Performing hand hygiene (washing hands for 20 seconds with soap and water / utilization of alcohol based hand sanitizer) is the number one way to prevent the spread of infection. All essential staff perform hand hygiene immediately upon entrance of facility, after providing resident cares, using the restroom, before and after eating, shaking and holding hands.
- Covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue and immediately throw the tissue in the trash and clean hands with soap and water.
- Masks worn in facility when the County Transmission Rate indicates and/or the facility is in an outbreak investigation
- Staff receive continuous education on self-screening and all staff self-screen prior to, throughout and at the end of their shift. If staff are experiencing symptoms such as temperatures over 100 degrees F, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of smell or taste, sore throat, congestion or runny nose and diarrhea, nausea or vomiting, they are not allowed to enter the facility and staff are required to disclose if they have had any contact with an individual confirmed with COVID-19 outside the facility.

Our facility continues to be proactive by vigorously following all cleaning and disinfection procedures and be using EPA approved cleaning products. This means daily sanitizing of highly touched surfaces which include but are not limited to flat surfaces, door knobs, objects that are touched often, such as bathrooms, water fountains, tables, handrails, faucet handles, phones, etc. Our facility participated in our COVID-19 Focused Survey for Nursing Homes with the Arizona Department of Health Services to determine whether our facility is implementing proper infection prevention and control practices to prevent the development and transmission of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases and infections. We completed this survey with no issues or concerns.

As of May 29, 2023, our facility has a total of **zero** active cases of COVID-19, zero residents and zero staff members.

We will continue to monitor closely and follow all Arizona Department of Health Services, Mohave County Health Department and CDC guidelines. In the event we would have a positive or suspected COVID-19 case within our facility, we would notify you within 24 hours or by 5:00 pm by next day, whichever is sooner. This update will be via our COVID-19 Update link on the homepage of our facility web page.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the facility Administrator.

Sincerely,

*Kristen Ott*

Kristen Ott, Administrator

May 29, 2023, 10:00 AM

## **COVID Vaccine Updates and Information:**

Please see below the provided education from CDC regarding the benefits and potential risks associated with COVID-19 Vaccine.

### **COVID-19 Vaccination Recommendations**

COVID-19 vaccines are [safe](#) and [effective](#)—especially against becoming seriously ill, being hospitalized and dying—and very important for older adults.

People are protected best from COVID-19 when they [stay up to date with recommended COVID-19 vaccines, including boosters](#).

People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised have [different recommendations for COVID-19 vaccines](#).

COVID-19 vaccines may be administered along with and on the same day as other vaccines, such as the flu vaccine. Administer each injection in a different injection site. For more information, see [Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

### **COVID-19 EUA Fact Sheets to help you make an informed decision about vaccination**

[COVID-19 Pfizer BioNTech Vaccine EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients](#)

[COVID-19 Moderna Vaccine EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients](#)

[COVID-19 Janssen Vaccine EUA Fact Sheet for Recipients](#)

### **Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination**

[https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/faq.html?CDC\\_AA\\_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fvaccines%2Fkeythingstoknow.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/faq.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fvaccines%2Fkeythingstoknow.html)

### **Myths and Facts about COVID-19 Vaccines**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/facts.html>

### **How to Get a COVID-19 Vaccine**

Take these steps to get a COVID-19 vaccine for you or your family member:

- Visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) to find providers near you.
- If you have additional questions about how to get a COVID-19 vaccine, talk with your healthcare provider.

**To find COVID-19 vaccine locations near you:** Search [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov), text your ZIP code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233.