

## 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.

While the Public Health Emergency has ended this facility continues to adhere to infection prevention and control recommendation in accordance with accepted national standards. This facility continues to follow 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 Department and follows their continued guidance in our efforts to keep our residents and staff safe.

Visual Alerts are posted throughout the facility with instruction about current IPC recommendations and when to use source control.

The visitation guidance provided has been recently updated and indicates the following requirements for all visitation and is in accordance with the guidelines from Arizona Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

- Visitation is allowed at all times for all residents except the following entry restrictions:
  - i. Visitor has a positive viral test for COVID 19
  - ii. Visitor has COVID like Symptoms
  - iii. Visitor meets criteria for quarantine per CDC guidance
- Outdoor visitation generally pose a lower risk of transmission due to increased space and flow and may occur when the following condition are met:
  - 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 are 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
- Indoor visitation during an outbreak response:
  - An outbreak investigation is initiated when a single new case of COVID 19 occurs among residents or staff to determine if others have been exposed
  - This facility follows CDC and CMS guidance
  - Visitation may occur however, there is a risk of being potentially exposed to Covid in the facility
- 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 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.
- Source control measures are implemented as necessary per CDC guidance
- CDC continue to collect and report SARS-CoV-2 hospital admissions data on the [CDC COVID Data Tracker](#). These data continue to be available at the county level and are used by CDC to help the public decide when masking in the community should be considered
- This facility will always notify and follow the recommendation of public health authorities when performing an outbreak response to a known case
- Staff receive continuous education in regards to monitoring themselves for symptoms consistent with COVID-19, and not reporting to work when ill or if testing positive for SARS-CoV-19 infection

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 February 7, 2024, our facility has a total of 0 active cases of COVID-19, 0 residents and 0 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. 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,

Stephanie Cobanovich, Administrator

February 7, 2024