

January 8, 2020

Good afternoon everyone,



This is an official update on our current status.

We have received test results for all staff from Monday’s testing and all residents from Tuesday’s testing. Unfortunately, yesterday we received one positive result for a resident. However, this resident has been quarantined to her room and had no direct exposure to any other residents. Yesterday we did a rapid PCR test on her and sent it into Elliott hospital; last night it came back negative. It is assumed her first test was a false positive. Today we have done yet another PCR test and are awaiting the results from Elliot. Please know as soon as we hear of a positive result we go into action. This resident’s family was notified, the resident was moved to an isolation room on our COVID unit, and her room was disinfected/cleaned; all as a precaution. Because we are already in an outbreak status all staff have been wearing full PPE and this too helps reduce the chance of additional exposure to other residents.

It is possible once we talk to the health department they will acknowledge the false positive and we would be allowed to come off outbreak status. I will let you know if we hear anything yet today but most likely will be early next week.

This positive case was reported to all the required agencies, and we will continue to be in “outbreak” status. We continue to be in Phase 0; closed to admissions; all residents on precautions; staff are in full PPE; no group activities; no dining in groups; and no visitation except for compassionate care visits. We will stay in Phase 0 until we have 14 days with no positive results after the last positive case.

The following is currently in place:

- We continue to check for symptoms on all residents three times a day.
- All residents are on precautions.
- All residents will be tested weekly until further notice (directed by health department).
- All staff are screened before entering the facility.
- All staff are being tested bi-weekly.
- Staff are in full PPE (personal protective equipment) on all floors at all times.
- We are closed to new admissions.

Positivity Rates:

Belknap County, NH	18.3%	Red
Carroll County, NH	10.4%	Red
Cheshire County, NH	11.3%	Red
Coos County, NH	12.5%	Red
Grafton County, NH	8.3%	Yellow

Hillsborough County, NH	17.6%	Red
Merrimack County, NH	16.2%	Red
Rockingham County, NH	14.9%	Red
Strafford County, NH	14.3%	Red
Sullivan County, NH	9.3%	Yellow

Vaccine News:

We will be receiving our second dose of the vaccine next Wednesday. Anyone that did not get a first dose can also receive it on this day. They will be back one more time for anyone needing a second dose from this Wednesday. If you are one of the family members not wanting your loved one vaccinated please reconsider. We've been told that a few weeks after receiving the vaccine (second dose), is supposed to lessen the symptoms should you contact COVID and one would be less likely to not die from it (COVID). We continue to get weekly updates from NH DHHS.

ZOOM Meeting:

Now that the holidays have passed we would like to start these up again. We would plan for Thursday 1/14 at 6pm. We mentioned to you on our last zoom that we would have the new unit managers attend however, this will not work due to family commitments. We could have them attend a zoom if we did it earlier in the day. If you are open to doing a zoom call at 11am on Thursday 1/14 the managers could be present. Please reply to this email if you are open to the 11am zoom. We normally have about 20 people on the zoom so if I get a response from at least 10 people we will then change the zoom to 11am on 1/14 for this one time. Thank you.

EPP Emergency Preparedness:

Once a year I update this manual and procedures as needed. I will be sending out another email with an attachment that explains our EPP program to you. If you have any questions of this letter please let me know.

Have a good week,

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