



March 5, 2021

Hello Everyone,

Here is my weekly update for all of you.

Today all staff were tested in house with the antigen test; so far all have been negative. All staff will be tested again on Monday using the PCR test.

Residents will be tested tomorrow by the national guard; we should have results coming in starting Saturday sometime. We'll hope for no additional positives.

We continue to be in "outbreak" status; and in Phase 0. We will stay in Phase 0 until we have 14 days with no positive results after the last positive results (February 26th), (this is counted from the day tested not day we learn of the positive results).

The following continues to be in place:

- We will continue to check for symptoms on all residents three times a day.
- All residents are on precautions: no group activities; no dining in groups, and except for window or compassionate visits.
- All staff continues to be screened before entering the facility.
- Staff are in full PPE (personal protective equipment) on all floors.
- We continue to test all staff twice a week.
- We are closed to new admissions.

Positivity Rates:

Hillsborough came down again. Remember we need it below 10% for two weeks before we can resume indoor visitation (and out of outbreak status). We learned on our 2-hour call with DHHS on Wednesday that there may be a discrepancy in the state's numbers compared to CMS's numbers (below are CMS's). DHHS will be looking into why they are being reported differently.

Belknap County, NH	33001 NH	1	61,303 Micropolitan	1,054	1,719	6.5%	Yellow
Carroll County, NH	33003 NH	1	48,910 Non-core	673	1,376	11.9%	Red
Cheshire County, NH	33005 NH	1	76,085 Micropolitan	1,675	2,201	12.8%	Red
Coos County, NH	33007 NH	1	31,563 Micropolitan	492	1,559	7.1%	Yellow
Grafton County, NH	33009 NH	1	89,886 Micropolitan	2,035	2,264	15.7%	Red
Hillsborough County, NH	33011 NH	1	417,025 Medium metro	6,701	1,607	12.3%	Red
Merrimack County, NH	33013 NH	1	151,391 Micropolitan	2,161	1,427	9.5%	Yellow
Rockingham County, NH	33015 NH	1	309,769 Large fringe metro	4,652	1,502	13.0%	Red
Strafford County, NH	33017 NH	1	130,633 Large fringe metro	2,507	1,919	24.1%	Red
Sullivan County, NH	33019 NH	1	43,146 Micropolitan	692	1,604	13.0%	Red

Vaccine News:

On our Wednesday's call we learned that nursing homes will soon be having access to the COVID vaccine. This is all we know at this time; which one or when is yet to be determined. We are on another call with them tomorrow and after, I may know more and will share that info with you.

Visitation:

You may have heard in the news about the guidance for nursing home visitation is changing. Residents will have expanded access to compassionate visits, this will be true even if a nursing home is in an outbreak status. We are in the process of updating our policy on allowing these visits and hope to start them next Tuesday. My plan is to send these guidelines out to you as soon as they are available.

In the meantime, we are opening up to window visits (vestibule) starting tomorrow. These will be done in the same manner as before. If you would like a visit please call or email Barbara, Life Enrichment Services, directly as the on-line portal is not active/ being updated with compassionate visit times.

We are excited that we are able to move forward with visitation. I must admit we are also a bit anxious that something could be brought in. I hope everyone coming into the facility is open and honest as to their status before entering; we have a lot of precious lives to safeguard.

Barbara's Phone: 935-4607

Barbara's email: mtc.activitydir@nh-cc.org

ZOOM Meeting:

Our next zoom meeting will be on March 11th at 6pm mark your calendars. I will send out the invite soon.

Have a good week,

Joe Bohunicky, NHA, MBA, Administrator
Mt. Carmel Rehabilitation and Nursing Center
235 Myrtle St.
Manchester, NH 03104
P: 603-627-3811 -- F: 603-626-4696