



1304 Laurel Oak Rd
Voorhees, NJ 08043
P: 856.346.3300
F: 856.435.4223

Providing Specialized Nursing
& Advanced Pulmonary Care

Weekly Family-Guardian Communication

...from the Interdisciplinary Care Team-3/11/2022

In our effort to maintain open and honest communication, we will continue to send you updates about all Respiratory Viral Outbreaks and the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). We hope you find this information helpful.

Resident Update

Our Residents are well in their typical states of health.

Staff Update

Our Staff are well.

Resident/Staff COVID-19 Testing

Since we have not had any new cases reported for 28 days, as of 3/7, The NJ Department of Health has declared our COVID-19 Outbreak over. Routine testing of all Staff and Residents is no longer necessary. The only testing that will continue is for our Staff that is not up to date with the vaccine and booster and for any of our Residents having signs or symptoms of COVID-19 illness.

Visitation

Effective immediately, we have returned to open access in room visitation for all Resident Family-Guardians. Appointments are no longer required and visits will take place in the Resident's Room following strict infection prevention and control practices. We have revised our Visitation Guidelines to reflect the changes and providing a copy to all of our Resident Family-Guardians. We will continue to offer and provide video visitation for our Families upon request.

COVID-19 Vaccine

We continue to offer the Pfizer-BioTech vaccine to all eligible Residents age 5 and older with Family-Guardian permission. **Although the vaccine is not mandatory to receive for our Residents and Family-Guardians, it is highly recommended for all individuals to prevent the spread of COVID-19.** The vaccine is readily available at various sites in the community for all NJ Residents. A NJ State toll free Hotline can be contacted at 855-568-0545 to assist you with general questions about the vaccines, eligibility and location of vaccination sites or you can visit the NJ Hub Website: [covid-19.nj.gov](https://www.covid-19.nj.gov). **We highly encourage ALL to receive the vaccine and a booster!** It is now mandatory for all eligible NJ Health Care Workers to receive a COVID-19 vaccine and booster. We are in compliance with this requirement.

Continued over

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Our Commitment

Resident and Staff wellness and safety is our top priority. Please be reassured we continue to follow all core standards of Infection Prevention and Control measures partnering with the NJ DOH to maintain wellness. Throughout the pandemic, our team has worked tirelessly to remain up to date on all current COVID-19 data and recommendations from science and medical experts to make the best decisions for our Residents, Families, Staff and Community. **Prior to the Federal and State mandate for Staff working in Long Term Care Facilities to receive the COVID-19 Vaccine, we decided to require that all of our Staff be fully vaccinated. We feel this is our responsibility to our community and a necessary step in ending this pandemic.**

Our Appreciation

A heartfelt thank you for your continued patience, support and trust in us. We respect and appreciate our partnership with you.

Important Communication Updates

Our automated Family-Guardian notification system is in place that is linked to our Electronic Medical Record. We are sending all medical appointments, facility outings and urgent messages from our automated system to your cell phone or landline. In the near future, other notifications we typically mail will be sent by email if you have an email address. We will continue to mail information for those without an email address. We will continue to mail all Resident Family-Guardians important updates as needed. Our Weekly Update will available on our website for review.

It is **FLU SEASON!** We encourage our Residents and Family-Guardians to receive a yearly flu vaccine to help keep us well especially during the COVID-19 PANDEMIC. The State of NJ requires all individuals employed in any NJ healthcare facility receive a yearly flu vaccine unless they have a medical exemption from a healthcare provider. We have provided the vaccine to all eligible Staff and Residents with Family-Guardian permission.

Be well.

Enclosed, please a copy of our revised Visitation Guidelines for your review.



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March 11, 2022

Re: Family-Guardian Notification of Revised Resident Visitation Policy

Dear Family-Guardian,

After careful review of the recently revised Federal and State Directives and Guidelines concerning visitation in long term care facilities, effectively immediately, we have returned to open access in room visitation for all Residents.

Resident Family-Guardians no longer need to schedule an appointment in advance to visit their child and the visit will take place in their child's room following strict infection prevention and control practices. We have enclosed the revised Visitation Guidelines that outline the procedures to follow during visitation.

We respect and appreciate your ongoing support and trust in our partnership throughout this pandemic. Your partnership with us has been instrumental in helping us keep our Residents safe and well.

Please feel free to contact Social Work or a Nursing Supervisor with any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

The Interdisciplinary Care Team

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Voorhees Pediatric Facility Visitation Guidelines

1. No appointments are required for visitation at this time.
2. Visits will occur in the resident room, while following infection control practices and maintaining safe distance from roommates.
3. Visitation is open to any person age 2 and older that has the ability to wear a properly fitting mask and is able to comply with all visitation policies and procedures.
4. Only 2 visitors per resident will be allowed in the room at one time. If more people would like to visit, we ask that they visit the room in shifts, to reduce crowding and ensure safe distancing from roommates.
5. All visitors may enter by the Main Entrance of the building and check-in through the intercom with Front Desk Reception.
6. A surgical mask will be provided upon entry.
7. Visitors must complete a health screening and temperature check upon entering.
8. Rapid COVID testing will be offered to visitors, however it is not required to visit.
9. The clinical staff will provide education and any additional PPE that is necessary.
10. As always, there may be times when visitors may be asked to wait in the lobby for a short time while the clinical staff attend to a child or prepare the room for a visit. Please be patient, especially as we transition back to open visitation.
11. The Family-Guardian or visitor must maintain social distancing from Staff and other Residents, remain on the designated side of the patient room, and wear a properly fitting surgical mask at all times.
12. No food or drink is permitted during the visit.
13. Failure of the visitor to follow any of the guidelines will result in an immediate end to the visit and escort out of the building with the potential for suspension of future visitation.
14. Exceptions to the Guidelines are at the discretion of the VPF Administrator, Medical Director, Director of Nursing or Director of Social Work.

During your visit, please help us to prevent the spread of germs.

- Wear your mask over your nose and mouth.
- Avoid touching your mask or face.
- Clean your hands often with hand sanitizer.
- Maintain a distance of 6 feet from roommates, residents, and staff.
- Limit the amount of time you spend in common areas and/or with staff.
- Avoid touching surfaces and objects in the room and throughout building, when possible.