

## COVID-19 UPDATE

### 5-13-2022—Confirmed Covid-19 Cases

Dear Residents and Family Members:

Well, the good news is that today is Friday and the start of the weekend for many of you! The not so good news is that it is Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>, and our latest update cannot be considered lucky. In our last posting we informed you that we had several residents with upper respiratory symptoms. As usual, our staff immediately began testing those residents for a variety of illnesses. The initial testing yielded all negative results. Subsequent Covid-19 PCR testing was initiated since all of New York State is experiencing yet another surge in what experts are referring to as “the fifth wave.”

Results received yesterday identified a total of 13 positive Covid-19 cases. The affected residents are currently isolated to Unit 1 South. Typical symptoms include cough, nasal congestion, and fever. Our physicians have directed symptomatic residents to commence anti-viral medications which were promptly initiated. All results were reported to the NYS and Dutchess County Departments of Health, as required. Our Director of Nursing is in frequent contact with the epidemiologists at the DOH who reviewed our protocols and consulted on additional interventions to contain or minimize the spread. In light of that, proactive house-wide testing of all facility staff is currently underway. Any staff testing positive, whether symptomatic or not, will be instructed to remain at home for the required isolation period.

If you recently visited a resident that tested positive on that unit, we are advising you to get tested for COVID-19 due to the potential exposure. NYS health officials have estimated this new subvariant is substantially more contagious than the first descendant of the Omicron strain. **Therefore, it is in your best interest, and we are urging you to postpone visiting Unit 1 South temporarily. All other units are fully open to visitors.** If you do choose to visit, face masks are necessary whenever you are in the building, and you must present a negative Covid-19 test result.

At this time, we are encouraging, and Carolyn can assist with “virtual visits,” including FaceTime, Zoom and Skype. Updates will be available on this website, and our nurse managers and social workers can accommodate specific questions regarding your loved one.

Obviously, this virus is not going to be history anytime soon and is still causing illness in vaccinated individuals. Fortunately, the symptoms are mostly manageable and not resulting in widespread hospitalizations. So, your best defense is a good offense which includes--wear your mask in public, get tested if not feeling well, stay home if you are sick, and if you have not done so already, get vaccinated! If you are vaccinated but not boosted, don't hesitate. Booster doses are readily available at many locations.

Be safe and be well!

Patricia Ludington, RN  
Administrator