

December 22, 2021

Dear Families, Friends, and Residents –

As you are all aware, the Omicrom variant is surging throughout the state and the COVID positivity rate in Barnstable County has never been higher, since the start of this pandemic, than it is now. Here at our center, we are doing everything in our power to keep this virus from our doors including offering the Moderna or Pfizer booster to all new admissions and to all our staff. We have had two COVID booster clinics and are planning another one shortly after the first of the year. We continue to follow all CDC, CMS, and DPH guidance but we need you help.

Your cooperation and compliance with the following will greatly assist us in battling this virus:

- **Surgical masks** – must be worn throughout your visit with your loved one. Please ensure these masks are securely covering your mouth and nose and that of your loved one.
- **Hand sanitizer** is available throughout the center. Please sanitize your hands when you enter our center and throughout your visit. Sanitize prior to entering your loved one's room and after you leave their room.
- Do not roam the halls, go to the gym, go into staff offices, or go to the nurses' station. If you have a question or need assistance, ring your loved one's call light and we will come to you.
- All care plan meetings, discharge planning meetings, etc. are held via Zoom call unless otherwise indicated. You will be provided the call-in number so you can participate but no meetings will be held in person unless there are extenuating circumstances.
- If you are bringing children into our center to visit and they are too young to wear a mask correctly and haven't been vaccinated, we ask that visit with your loved one in the lobby. Unvaccinated individuals should not be on the nursing units unless we have given you a rapid COVID test.
- Social distancing is extremely important – please ensure you maintain the 6 feet of social distance the CDC is suggesting while you are in our center.
- As the COVID positivity rate is substantially high in Barnstable County, we request that you do not eat or drink with your loved one currently and we ask that you refrain from visiting during mealtimes as your loved one's mask is off during mealtimes.
- **Please strongly reconsider taking your loved one out of the center for any reason other than a medical appointment.** Your loved one is with us because their health is compromised and as such, during this time, the least amount of time "in the community" or in any type of family gathering is honestly is safest as any "outside" interactions may very well be putting them at risk of contracting this virus.

This surge during the holidays is difficult for everyone but with all of us working together, we will get through healthy and safe and look forward to better days in 2022. As always, please contact me at 508-775-6663 if you have any questions and my very best wishes for a Merry Christmas.

Mary Benoit
Administrator