



Katie Richardson
VP/Administrator and Chief Long Term Care Officer

January 2, 2022

Dear Resident and Resident Representative:

Bergen New Bridge Medical Center remains committed to updating our residents and representatives regularly. In the past 24 hours, there have been two staff and two residents who have tested positive for COVID-19, all have been asymptomatic and all have been fully vaccinated. Positive staff will not return to work until cleared by a physician and we have enacted our COVID precautions and protocols for safety for the positive residents. Positive residents have been appropriately isolated and continue to be monitored.

As we continue to see an uptick in our staff cases, we remain vigilant in our mandatory weekly testing of staff, regardless of vaccination status. We also require our staff to wear PPE that is a step above the requirements. Weekly testing of residents has already started.

While we no longer require appointments for visitation, we do encourage outdoor visitation if you would like to see your loved one. We are strongly encouraging everyone to isolate and get tested if they feel any signs and symptoms of COVID-19, many of which present as the common cold. As you know, our residents are a vulnerable population so we all want to do whatever possible to keep them safe. If you choose to visit, we ask that you take a COVID-19 antigen test provided by us prior to entering your loved one's living space and that you keep your mask on throughout the visit while also following infection control measures, including washing hands for a minimum of 20 seconds.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions at 201-967-4013 or via email krichardson@newbridgehealth.org. I continue to encourage all of you to remain safe and healthy, maintain proper hand hygiene and good infection control practices. If you need a COVID-19 vaccine or booster vaccine, please reach out and I can guide you on how to register to come onsite to our vaccination center.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Richardson, LNHA
Chief Long Term Care Officer