



Katie Richardson  
VP/Administrator and Chief Long Term Care Officer

January 20, 2021

Dear Resident and Resident Representative:

Bergen New Bridge Medical Center remains committed to updating our residents and representatives regularly. In the last 24 hours, there has been two staff members who have tested positive for COVID-19, both have been fully vaccinated and are asymptomatic. 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. We continue to have a COVID positive cohort for any resident who tests positive. We are also limiting, within reason, movement of residents off unit and have stopped large social gatherings off the units.

As we are seeing 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 and continue our enhanced cleaning processes.

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.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions at 201-967-4013 or via email [krichardson@newbridgehealth.org](mailto: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