



Katie Richardson
VP/Administrator and Chief Long Term Care Officer

April 16, 2021

Dear Resident and Resident Representative:

Bergen New Bridge Medical Center remains committed to updating our residents and representatives regularly. There has been one non-clinical staff who has tested positive in the past 24 hours. The employee has been removed from duty and will return once cleared by a physician. There have not been any residents who have tested positive for COVID-19.

I just wanted to include reiterate the information from my last letter about indoor visitation starting. It has been great seeing several of you who have had your indoor visitation. Outdoor visitation does continue to remain the preferred method of visitation, however, we have taken steps to ensure indoor visitation follows guidance set forth by various regulatory agencies. In order to maintain the safety of our residents, staff and visitors, there are limitations that have been put into place. Below is an overview of the safety measures we must have in place to allow such visitation. Each visitor who chooses and indoor visitation must sign an informed consent which will include all of the requirements and safety measures. For your convenience, some are listed below:

- All indoor visitors must sign an informed consent.
- All indoor visits must be scheduled to ensure safety and to ensure all residents have a fair opportunity for visitation. This may include a limit on visits per week to twice a week per resident.
- All indoor visits are not to exceed one hour in duration.
- Full COVID-19 screening will be done upon arrival to facility.
- COVID-19 rapid test is encouraged and can be provided by our facility immediately prior to visit
- All visitors must sign time in and out in "Visitation Book" on unit.
- Visitation may be in resident room based on vaccination status of resident/roommate, if not in the room in, then accommodations will be made for an alternative site.
- If resident is fully vaccinated, there may be hugging/close contact as long as both resident and visitor have on tight fitting masks worn properly over nose and mouth.
- Proper hand hygiene must be done throughout visit.
- Visits may be monitored to ensure safety compliance.
- No exchange of food/drink is permitted at this time, all items should be given to the nursing/social services staff.
- Travel outside of NY/NJ will require 14 day quarantine prior to indoor visitation.
- Any resident who is on transmission based precautions for any reason will not be allowed indoor visitation (this includes new admissions, potential readmissions, COVID-19 positive, etc)

In order to schedule a visit, regardless of outdoor or indoor, please contact myself or Sherri Siwulec at 201-967-4004 for the consent form. Please read through the consent, in its entirety before, signing to ensure you fully understand what requirements are in place. I am happy to discuss the consent, so please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns at 201.967.4013 or krichardson@newbridgehealth.org. I continue to encourage all of you to remain safe and healthy, wear a mask, maintain good hand hygiene, practice social distancing, and, when you can, get vaccinated

Sincerely,

Kathryn Richardson, LNHA
Chief Long Term Care Officer

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