

COVID-19 Action Plan

Protecting the Residents of Cherry Ridge

*You Love Them by Staying Away.
We Love Them by Coming to Work.*

Reduced Non-essential Exposure

- Lock down of facility prohibiting outside visitors, vendors, and volunteer groups thus limiting entrance to employees and healthcare staff only
- Limited employee travel and initiated screening of each individual employee's health with a temperature prior to work
- Further reduced entrance to the facility to allow only essential health care providers through a single front entrance
- Increased the use of telemedicine for practitioners – physicians, behavioral/mental health, wound specialists, and hospice support – to visualize and communicate with the resident at bedside through iPad use

Vigilant Infection Control

- Conducted COVID-19 specific infection control training for caregivers, ancillary staff, and medical professionals
- Utilization of washable masks to control the source of droplets even from staff without symptoms to further reduce the risk of germ spread to residents
- Added housekeeping, dietary, and laundry protocols to monitor effective practices and further reduce the risk of germ spread
- Disinfecting high touch surfaces multiple times daily
- Activated our emergent infectious disease plan that coordinates staff, supplies, facility needs, as well as the needs of the community at large so that we partner effectively, in unity, with the local and state health departments
- Implemented social distancing plans for residents and staff
- Ongoing surveillance to validate enhanced infection control protocols are practiced by all employees
- New admission residents are provided a private space and do not come in contact with other residents or general staff for 14 days while potential symptoms of respiratory infection are ruled out
- Constant monitoring of the Centers for Disease Control guidance as new information is learned about COVID-19

Resident Care with Focus

- Check resident's temperature and oxygen saturation at least twice daily
- Watch for subtle symptoms of infection to include; fever, slight changes in respiration, dry cough, increased overall muscle pain or headache, bowel changes, nausea, changes in confusion/mental status, sore throat, complaints of lack of taste or smell, and other silent symptoms
- Provide a variety of novel and engaging social distancing activities through electronics, doorway line-of-site events, window parades, and 1:1 interaction to support resident life enhancement
- If resident displays any one common symptom along with one less common symptom, immediate COVID-19 test is performed, Influenza swab is collected for testing, full viral respiratory panel is taken, initiate droplet precautions, contact primary care physician, and resident is isolated for their protection and that of the other residents

Reporting

- Presumptive COVID-19 resident (and employee) cases are reported to local and state health departments. Family member or medical point-of-contact for affected resident is notified with onset of symptoms and subsequent testing results

Positive COVID Test Action

- Droplet precautions implemented for symptomatic resident is already in place
- Staff utilizes medical masks and gowns for personal protection
- Communication occurs with residents, their family members, and staff
- Continued restriction of resident contact with others for their protection and that of the other residents
- Individual-specific plan of care is established with the resident, the resident family, personal care givers, and the physician so that the specific plans of the resident are honored

