

## COVID-19 Family/Visitor Education

COVID-19 is an infectious disease caused by the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2, which has caused a worldwide pandemic. People infected with the virus, often spread via droplet through the air by coughing or sneezing, through close personal contact or by touching an object or surface with the virus on it, can be asymptomatic or have mild to severe illness. Older people and those with underlying health conditions such as heart or lung disease or diabetes appear to be a higher risk of developing serious complications; some die as a result.

Here are important guidelines for family members or other visitors. If you refuse to adhere to these guidelines, your visit may be shortened or canceled. Your safety and the safety of our residents remain our primary concern and the reason for these guidelines.

- Do not visit if you are sick or exhibiting symptoms of an illness.
- Follow the guidelines set forth including seating arrangements and screening process.
- Sanitize/wash your hands at the beginning and end of your visit as well as during the visit if they become soiled or contaminated.
- Wear a mask during the entire visit; your mask must cover your nose and mouth. Please bring mask(s) to your visit.
- We encourage you to maintain six feet or greater physical-distancing.
- Cover any coughs and sneezes. Use tissues and discard in the trash, then wash hands immediately after use.
- Do not walk through any part of the health care center; visitors must remain in designated visitation areas.
- Small pets will be considered for visitation; please contact us if you are considering visiting with a small pet.
- Please allow our staff members the time necessary to properly disinfect contact surfaces to avoid cross-contamination.

Important: Download the visitation form provided below, then print, sign and bring it to your visitation appointment.

Resources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/social-distancing.html>

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/Documents/Diseases%20and%20Conditions/Coronavirus.pdf>

## **What is COVID-19?**

It is an illness caused by a virus that can spread from person to person. The virus that causes COVID-19 is a new coronavirus that has spread throughout the world. COVID-19 symptoms can range from mild (or no symptoms) to severe illness. It is spread via droplet through the air by coughing or sneezing; through close personal contact and by touching an object or surface with the virus on it.

## **How can COVID-19 affect my loved one?**

Older adults and people who have severe underlying medical conditions like heart or lung disease or diabetes seem to be at higher risk for developing more serious complications from COVID-19 illness.

## **What should I do while visiting my loved one?**

- Do not visit if you are sick.
- Follow the guidelines set forth including seating arrangements and screening process.
- Sanitize/wash your hands at the beginning and end of visit as well as in between if they become soiled or contaminated during the encounter.
- Mask must be worn during entire visit and cover your nose and mouth.
- All visitors are encouraged to maintain six feet or greater physical-distancing.
- Cover your cough and sneeze. Use tissues and discard in the trash, then wash hands immediately after use.
- Do not walk through any part of the facility, visitors must remain in designated visitation area.
- No pets will be allowed unless they are designated as a therapy pet and appropriate documentation is provided.
- At this time, no children are allowed to visit.
- Allow staff time to properly disinfect contact surfaces to avoid cross contamination.

## **Things you need to know:**

- Your safety and the safety of our residents is our main concern and the reason for which visiting guidelines have been established.
- Please bring your mask to visit. If you do not have a mask, one will be provided to you.
- If you refuse to adhere to established guidelines your visit may be shortened or cancelled.

**Visitor Acknowledgement Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Visitor Printed Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Resident Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Resources:

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