

August 20, 2021

Dear Residents, Employees, and Families:

#### **COVID Vaccine Booster**

The below link is the most recent update we have regarding COVID vaccine booster shots. You can expect information about this process to be fluid as new information is received.

<u>Joint Statement from HHS Public Health and Medical Experts on COVID-19 Booster Shots | CDC Online Newsroom | CDC</u>

We will be reaching out to various entities regarding the possibility of an on-site clinic for the community. The timing of upcoming flu vaccination clinics and a COVID vaccine clinic is important as the CDC recommends the two vaccines not be administered concurrently.

# Current Statistics (Aug 20th Oklahoma State Department of Health)

- Tulsa's 3-day average for hospitalizations is 493 (144 of those in ICU).
- Oklahoma's positivity rate is 21.8%.

## **COVID Positive Garden Home and Towers Residents**

Since our last communication on Aug 19<sup>th</sup>, no other residents have tested positive. The *active* fully vaccinated resident total is two. One resident continues to quarantine in their home for 10 days and the other is hospitalized. The total number of residents who have tested positive is 30.

# **COVID Testing Availability for Garden Home and Towers Residents**

The Wellness Clinic is available to perform COVID testing during normal business hours, which are Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. After 4:00 p.m. and on weekends, you may seek testing at local pharmacies and urgent care centers.

Per the CDC, a COVID-19 "exposure" is defined as having close contact, within 6 feet or less for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. This applies regardless of the use of face coverings during the infectious period. The infectious period is two days prior to onset of symptoms, or two days prior to test date if asymptomatic until the point a person enters guarantine (isolation).

Testing criteria is as follows due to our current availability of rapid COVID tests. However, this is subject to change in the future if supply chains become disrupted:

- Rapid COVID Test
  - ✓ Have NOT had any exposure to COVID (see definition above)
  - ✓ Have NOT experienced any symptoms of COVID
  - √ 15-minute result
  - ✓ Do not have to quarantine
  - ✓ Done in Wellness Clinic during above business hours
- PCR COVID Test
  - √ Have HAD exposure to COVID (see definition above)
  - ✓ ARE experiencing symptoms of COVID or overall, not feeling well
  - ✓ Takes 24 plus hours to result
  - ✓ Must quarantine in home until result is received
  - ✓ Requires a call to Wellness Clinic or Nurse On-Call phone and Nurse will come to home.

### **COVID Positive Employees**

Please note there was a typo in yesterday's communication. The total number of employees who have tested positive as of Aug 19<sup>th</sup> was 27, not 26.

Since our last communication on Aug 19<sup>th</sup>, one Chateau employee has tested positive. No employees have completed their 10-day quarantine. The total number of employees that have tested positive is 28.

On Aug 18<sup>th</sup>, the Biden Administration urged the Centers for Medicare/Medicaid to set requirements for all long-term care staff to be vaccinated against COVID-19. We have not received any new or additional information today. We will keep you informed as specific measures are developed and implementation timelines are provided.

## **Chateau Residents**

All residents were tested today as an additional precautionary measure. They will be retested on Aug 23<sup>rd</sup>. Indoor visitation has been suspended. A separate communication was sent out earlier today to resident families outlining the process for scheduling outdoor, virtual and window visits.

# **COVID Positive Villa Residents**

Since our last communication on Aug 19<sup>th</sup>, one resident has completed their 10-day quarantine. The *active* fully vaccinated Villa resident total is zero. The total number of Villa residents who have tested positive remains at 14. The next outbreak testing will be Aug 23<sup>rd</sup>.

A Villa-specific communication was sent out on Aug 18th to residents and their families.

## **Abbey Positive Residents**

Since our last communication on Aug 19<sup>th</sup>, the *active* fully vaccinated Abbey resident total is one, and they are hospitalized. One resident completed their 10-day quarantine. The total number of Abbey residents who have tested positive is two. The next outbreak testing will be Aug 23<sup>rd</sup>. Use of the COVID apartment has been discontinued.

Visitation remains suspended. A separate communication was sent out on Aug 11<sup>th</sup> to resident families outlining the process for scheduling virtual and window visits.

#### **Employee Testing**

Surveillance testing of all unvaccinated Montereau Home Care employees is conducted once per week. Chateau employees are tested twice per week per CMS regulation for a positivity rate above 10% (per the National Health Safety Network, Tulsa County positivity rate for long term care remains at 24.4%). At this time, Villa and Abbey employees are being tested in accordance with outbreak testing guidelines, which is twice per week. We continue to COVID test symptomatic employees and contact trace if positive.

In addition to the above, we are testing or will begin testing support staff who work in all areas of the community as an extra precautionary measure, including Towers Unidine staff.

### **Take Responsibility**

Taking responsibility for your own well-being minimizes your risk for COVID. In many instances, we cannot control what others do, but we can control what we do individually:

- Get vaccinated.
- Wear a mask and encourage your family and friends to wear a mask when visiting.
- Cover coughs and sneezes.
- Wash your hands often; clean and disinfect your spaces.
- Stay 6 feet away from others and avoid crowds and poorly ventilated spaces.
- Monitor your health daily.

Thank you,

Tammy Brown RN, MBA, NHA, CPASRM Interim CEO, COO/Administrator Health Services