

July 24, 2020

Hello Families, residents and friends – Happy Friday from St. Teresa's.

Last Friday's results gave us no new positive results. Results showed the virus was not detected. Today, we are again testing EVERYONE – all staff and resident, for the second week per the direction of Public Health. After a positive staff member, they want us to have 2 clear cycles in the next 14 days. We receive faxed results from the public health lab. The results arrived Monday through Wednesday this week. Anticipate the same for next week.

The Department of Health and Human Services advised us that they are bringing all the Surveillance testing and laboratory processing back to NH. We will be transitioning back to Surveillance testing for our next round, assuming no new Positive results this week.

I know there have been many questions about how/why your family member may be put on quarantine and for how long. I will try to explain.... It is, admittedly, a little confusing. Know we do not quarantine your family members without careful thought. It is an additional hardship for all.

There are 2 reasons we might quarantine a resident.

- We are monitoring all residents, daily, for symptoms. The first reason is if they exhibit any symptoms, such as fever, respiratory issues, nausea or diarrhea, etc. We just need to protect everyone, so we will quarantine for 14 days. Even when they are tested, during this quarantine, and results are that the virus was not detected, we still quarantine for the 14 days to be abundantly cautious. We will test your family member during this period. Know that we cannot and do not move roommate out of symptomatic resident's room. Simply because, once symptoms start, if Covid, roommate will have already been exposed. Both are then quarantined and monitored for symptoms. Moving to another room, would only potentially exposed another resident.
- The other reason is if a staff member tests positive and has worked with your family member. Again, we will quarantine all impacted residents for 14 days. When exposed to a positive person, even non symptomatic, you can develop symptoms and become positive within 14 days. So even if tested and not positive during the quarantine period, the Quarantine lasts 14 days because you can become sick anytime during that 14 day window. Yes, all staff are all wearing masks at work, but we are not asking your family members to wear masks in their rooms, only if they are out of their rooms for any reason.

While in quarantine, we cannot allow outside visits because your family member cannot leave his/her room. The good news most of our Quarantines ended today. We have 3 rooms that remain on quarantine.

I hope this clarifies some of your questions. Please feel free to call and ask any specifics of me, Dawn Davis, DNS, Megan Lozeau, ADNS or Lauren Castellan, clinical manager.

Kindly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luanne Rogers". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "L" and "R".

Luanne Rogers
Administrator