



Department of Health

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

MARY T. BASSETT, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner

KRISTIN M. PROUD
Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

February 4, 2022

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Dear Resident / Representative:

The Veterans Home's efforts to prevent the spread and impact of the coronavirus continue. The safety and wellbeing of all residents is our top priority. The Infection Prevention and Control Committee continues to meet regularly to respond to our current situation, review new guidance, and work closely with our health department contacts.

We had four new positive staff cases and no new resident cases this past week. This is a total of eighty-seven residents and one hundred and fifty-seven staff who have tested positive or presumptive positive since testing became readily available.

We will continue with outbreak testing of residents and staff twice next week and will alert you of any positive results.

We also ask residents to continue to try not to leave their rooms as much as possible because we are still in outbreak status and the County virus transmission rate remains high. Residents should wear a mask at all times when out of their rooms or when closer than 6 feet from others.

Visitors will continue to need to provide proof of a negative test prior to visiting and are able to get tested at the Veterans Home. Starting on Monday, February 7, if visitors need to self-test at the Veterans Home, Security will hand out a self-test and direct visitors to the self-testing stations. Security will also provide a self-testing attestation form that needs to be completed and returned to Security prior to the visit. If there are any questions or concerns at any point, a staff member from the testing clinic will be summoned to assist in answering questions and providing verbal coaching and guidance. Staff will not physically help perform the self-test. If unsuccessful in performing a self-test, visitors will still be able to use the testing clinic when it is open. Our goal is to prepare for when we are no longer conducting outbreak testing and to support all visitors in becoming comfortable with the self-testing process.

As always, please contact your Social Worker if you have any questions or for further assistance.

Respectfully,

Kurt D. Apthorpe

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