



Department of Health

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

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

KRISTIN M. PROUD
Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

February 25, 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 no new positive staff cases and no new resident cases this past week. The total remains at eighty-seven residents and one hundred and sixty 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.

The community positivity rate, while coming down, is still at a high level. We 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. We are hopeful to come out of outbreak status on March 3rd, and we will announce changes to these infection prevention and control protocols when that happens.

The testing clinic will no longer be available as of Monday, February 28th. The self-testing stations in the lobby will continue to be available and we encourage visitors to take free at-home rapid tests that are available from Security.

We will accept a negative result from a rapid test done outside the Home within 24 hours of the visit or a negative PCR test done within 48 hours of the visit. Security will continue to require that visitors complete a self-testing attestation form prior to the visit. Visitors will also be asked to continue to answer and pass the screening questions prior to visiting residents.

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

Respectfully,

Kurt D. Apthorpe

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