



Department of Health

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

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

KRISTIN M. PROUD
Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

October 6, 2022

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Dear Resident / Representative:

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

We had 6 resident and five staff test positive this past week. We have had ninety-one residents and two hundred and thirty-seven staff who have tested positive or presumptive positive at least once since testing became readily available.

Due to the number of new resident positives, we have had to quarantine the Oak Neighborhood and stop communal dining on Oak. Residents on Oak have been asked to remain on Oak Neighborhood and Oak residents' recreational therapy programs will be limited to Oak until further notice.

When outside of a resident room, we are asking everyone to wear a mask. All staff and visitors will also need to wear additional Personnel Protection Equipment (PPE). At this time, surgical masks are required when on Pine Neighborhood, eye protection/face shields and surgical masks are required when on Hawthorn, and N95/KN95 masks and eye protection/face shields are required for Oak. Additional PPE may be needed if entering resident rooms on transmission-based precautions. Please watch for these signs posted at resident room doors and do not hesitate to ask the staff if you have a question.

The COVID transmission level in Chenango County is still high. We will be testing all residents every 3 days, when symptomatic, exposed to someone with COVID-19, or returning from a furlough or hospitalization after more than 24 hours. All staff will be tested every 3-7 days until we have 14 days without a positive case acquired in the Home. You will be notified of all positive results.

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

Respectfully,

Kurt D. Apthorpe

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