



Department of Health

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

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

KRISTIN M. PROUD
Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

October 27, 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 have had no staff positives this past week, and residents were tested today, which all results were negative. We have had ninety-nine residents and two hundred and forty-eight staff who have tested positive or presumptive positive at least once since testing became readily available.

Since all residents have continued to test negative for 14 days, we are able to release Oak and Hawthorn's quarantine order. Residents will now be able to resume communal dining and communal activities, but they will be recommended to wear a surgical mask when outside their rooms (not required). Visitors still need to wear a surgical mask when moving through the Home but may take them off in the resident's rooms if they approve. 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.

Starting Friday October 28, we will no longer require staff to test, unless they are symptomatic or outbreak testing is required. Chenango County COVID transmission level is still high, so all staff, visitors, contractors, and volunteers are required to wear a surgical mask while in the home unless specified.

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

Respectfully,

Kurt D. Apthorpe

Kurt D. Apthorpe, MBA, LNHA, CNHA
Administrator, NYS Veterans' Home
4207 State Highway 220 | Oxford, NY 13830