



Department of Health

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

JAMES V. McDONALD, M.D., M.P.H.
Acting Commissioner

MEGAN E. BALDWIN
Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

March 10, 2023

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 no residents and two staff test positive this past week. Since January 1, 2023, we have had no residents and fourteen staff test positive. Symptomatic residents will continue to be tested along with residents exposed to someone with COVID-19, residents returning from a furlough or hospitalization after more than 24 hours, any resident if required prior to medical appointments or hospital procedures, and any resident as required for any reason. You will be notified of all positive results.

Social distancing and mask wearing requirements are being guided by the transmission levels and COVID-19 community rates in Chenango County. As this may change daily, we will post the mask wearing requirements at the main entrance to the Home, at the Security Desk, and at the Nurse's station on each Neighborhood. Social distancing is not required unless eating with others. You may sit near your loved one without a mask but must be socially distant (at least 6 feet) from other residents.

Everyone (staff, volunteers, contractors, and visitors) must continue to screen before entering the Home. Visitor testing is still available at the main entrance. Visitors should consider postponing visits if sick or have been exposed to COVID-19. A visitation guide is available at the Security Desk that also explains this and other Infection Prevention and Control measures to be followed when visiting.

Consider getting a COVID-19 vaccine or booster and an annual flu shot. Please pay attention to precaution signs when visiting and follow the directions. They will help protect you and others.

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

Respectfully,

Kurt D. Apthorpe

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