



May 21, 2020

Dear Solaris Patients, Families and Friends,

We hope this update finds you and your loved ones in good health! Solaris HealthCare Imperial appreciates that you have been understanding while complying with the guidelines set by our Governor and other regulatory agencies. We understand how difficult this has been for our patients, their families, and loved ones.

The mandatory “No Visitation” restrictions for skilled nursing centers have been extended by Governor DeSantis. Per CMS (Center for Medicare/Medicaid Services) guidelines, these restrictions will not be relaxed without careful consideration. Some of the factors listed by CMS are case status in community, case status in the nursing centers, staffing levels, access to testing for residents and staff, availability of personal protective equipment, and hospital capacity.

With recent improvement in testing availability and test result turn-around times the idea of testing all employees, and perhaps all patients, is gaining momentum. Solaris HealthCare Imperial will continue to coordinate closely with our local Department of Health to accomplish this testing. The Collier County DOH may come to the center to assist with testing, and we are certainly prepared to do the swabbing ourselves if they simply send us the tests kits. As soon as we get the directive, we will notify you of the plan and will be available to answer any questions that you might have regarding testing. In the event we have patients or staff that test positive we will follow all CDC guidelines to mitigate the spread of the virus. If a patient is positive and asymptomatic, they will be transferred to a COVID positive unit in another center. Currently, we do not have a COVID positive unit.

We continue to co-hort new patients from the hospital and those that have had to go out for necessary physician appts on our south unit. Due to this 14-day isolation procedure, many residents have been relocated to different rooms to accommodate incoming patients that require isolation. This is occurring so that existing patients are not exposed to those who have been hospitalized. We apologize for any inconvenience these relocations may cause.

As many of you are aware, we have a designated Vitas Hospice Unit on our campus. We have been working closely with the Vitas team and DOH to limit any exposure for our patients and staff. We have implemented procedures such as utilizing a separate entrance, no cross over of staff on the unit, and delivering all food items to their entrance on disposables. We will also be placing a temporary isolation barrier as an additional precaution.

We thank you for your continued support during this trying time. Our priority is to keep our residents and staff safe. Solaris HealthCare Imperial would like to thank you again for allowing us the opportunity to care of you or your loved one. Stay well!

Warm Regards,

Jamie Weis-Jones, NHA