



January 4, 2021

Dear Patients, Residents, and Family Members:

We want to take this opportunity to wish you a Happy New Year and give you an update of our current visitation status.

We understand the heartbreaking stress of not being able to hug your loved ones. As I am sure you are aware the state of Florida COVID positive cases continues to grow. We are encouraged that the vaccine is available and hope to see the positivity rate decrease. The residents/patients and staff who consented received the vaccine and we appreciate your compliance with this endeavor.

With that being said, we are not out of the woods yet. It continues to be our focus and determination to minimize the risk to our vulnerable community. We will continue “General” visitation outdoors at this time to allow patient/resident/family to connect in person while still reducing the risk of potential exposure. Social distance of 6 feet and personal protective equipment must be worn for the duration of the 30-minute visit. General visitation is Monday – Saturday 11am – 7pm. You may make an appointment for a visit by contacting the nursing unit.

The state no longer designates “essential” visits but does recognize “compassionate visitation” to include end of life and emotional support. These are inside visits for a limited time and all personal protective equipment must be worn during the one-hour visit. Minimal touching is allowed such as holding the hand, a hug, rubbing of the back, etc. “Emotionally Compassionate” visits are not allowed during isolation or during an outbreak. These visits must be scheduled with the nursing station after obtaining authorization.

This pandemic is an ever-changing situation, and we adapt as new information and procedures have been directed. We are guided by CMS, AHCA, and the Pasco County Health Department. Visitation is subject to change based on community positivity rate, facility onset of COVID- 19 positive case (s), and any other directives set forth by government agencies.

I want to express my deep appreciation to our amazing staff who have gone above and beyond in their infection control practices, education of patients/residents/families, remaining vigilant while off duty to minimize their risk of exposure out of concern for those in their care. Their efforts have allowed us to be one of the few facilities in our state with low positivity rates. Our staff have also increased visitation, provided entertainment, aided in reaching out to family through Zoom, especially during the holidays. Our patients/residents are doing remarkably well under the circumstances, but of course would like for life to get back to normal.

We appreciate the trust you place in us to care for you and your loved ones. Thank you for your support, understanding, cooperation, and kind words. We are in this together!

Best Wishes,

David Cross Administrator