

Tuesday, July 14, 2020
5:00 PM

Dear Gurwin Residents and Family Members:

As you know, we are required by the NY State Department of Health (DOH) to inform you of the status of COVID-19 in our facility. This update is sent when there is information to report, such as a new positive case or a loss, and weekly as a cumulative report in order to provide transparency. Brief updates are provided to our residents on their televisions via Channel 31, should they choose to view it.

As reported last week, we continue to have no residents who are positive for COVID-19 in our facility. While we understand that there is always the potential for residents to contract the virus, we are hopefully optimistic that the commitment of our staff to outstanding infection control practices will lessen the risk. Though we mourn the loss of 60 of our beloved residents, we are heartened to celebrate those who recover. Throughout the past few months, 150 of our residents have been medically cleared and either returned home or back to their units here at the nursing and rehabilitation center.

Staff testing is key to preventing the spread of infection. As you know, we have been testing our staff for COVID-19 on a weekly basis since late May, and, as expected, we occasionally learn of positive results. Any staff member testing positive is required to isolate for 14 days and may only return to work after a negative clinical test result. Since the weekly testing began, 44 employees have tested positive, one of whom was reported newly positive within the last 72 hours. Over the past three months, a total of 138 employees have tested positive for COVID-19, most of whom are recovered and back to work.

Yesterday, we notified you of the new visitation requirements, with the hope that we will begin welcoming families back for modified visits beginning in August. Due to the strict criteria set in place by the DOH, the earliest we will be able to begin visitation is August 10; this is contingent on staff/resident testing. No visitation will be allowed until 28 days pass without a positive test. Please visit our website for updated information, or check your email frequently in the coming weeks for more information. In the meantime, resident family members are encouraged to sign up for a Drive-Up visit (if you've already done one, you are now able to schedule a second): [please click here](#) or go to bit.ly/GurwinDriveUp. Click through to the Sign Up Genius form at the bottom of the page, and choose the date and time that works best for your 10-minute visit. We look forward to seeing you.

Please be assured that you will be promptly notified if your loved one is identified as a suspected or positive case of COVID-19 or has any other significant change in condition. As always, we strictly adhere to HIPAA guidelines and cannot provide information on roommates or other specific residents.

These updates will be sent as necessary, and are located on our website at www.gurwin.org/family-updates/ should you need to access them.

Sincerely,
The Gurwin Care Team

Video Chat with your loved one: email videochat@gurwin.org to request a time. (Limit one per family per week, please.)

Send your loved one a **Gurwin Gram Gram**. Send a **short** video to us via Facebook Messenger or by email to info@gurwin.org, and we'll deliver your good wishes.

Schedule a 10-minute Drive-Up Visit at the Gurwin Center. Visit bit.ly/GurwinDriveUp for details and to book your time slot.

Visit our [website at www.gurwin.org](http://www.gurwin.org) for Frequently Asked Questions and other updates on COVID-19.