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.

Currently, we have no residents in our facility who have tested positive for COVID-19. As required by the DOH, family members are called should any resident test newly positive. In addition, contacts for all residents on that unit are alerted to the positive test. We continue diligent cleaning practices and adherence to stringent infection control protocols to do our utmost to prevent new infections. Since the crisis began in mid-March, we have celebrated 150 recoveries from COVID-19; we also mourn the loss of 61 residents.

Testing has proven to be a great help in preventing the spread of infection. All of our staff members are tested weekly, per DOH regulations, and we have had no staff members test newly positive this week. Any staff members who do test positive are required to isolate at home for 14 days, and may only return to work after a negative clinical test result for COVID-19. Since late May, when weekly testing began, we have had 47 staff test positive, with a total of 141 employees testing positive since the health crisis began in March.

Our current target date for visiting is September 5, contingent on no new cases among residents and staff and DOH approval. In the meantime, resident family members are encouraged to sign up for a Drive-Up visit: 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. Family members are now welcome to sign up for up to three visits per month (no more than one per week). 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.
