Dear Gurwin Residents and Family Members:

We are required by the NY State Department of Health (DOH) to let you know whenever there is a newly positive test result for COVID-19 for either a staff member or resident in our facility. We are writing to let you know that we learned today of a positive result for a staff member. This staff member is required to quarantine for 14 days, returning to work only after a negative clinical test. This new positive result adjusts our target date for In-Person Visits to Wednesday, December 30, pending test results and DOH approval.

Today we had a call with the DOH to discuss the logistics as they are known now for the COVID-19 vaccine rollout. There are still many unanswered questions, but we have been told that the vaccine will begin to be available for nursing home residents and staff in NY state on or around December 21, and rollout may take as long as several weeks for the first dose to reach all nursing homes. All nursing homes were required to choose a pharmacy partner to administer the vaccine, and we have selected Walgreens as our partner. We have been told it will definitely be the Pfizer vaccine, which requires two doses, a minimum of 21 days apart. We expect that plans from the DOH will be fluid until all approvals are obtained and timelines are established, but we wanted to let you know what we know to date. As we learn more, we will provide more detailed information about the vaccine, consent processes and timing. Even with the questions we have, we are cautiously optimistic about a safe, effective vaccine that will ensure the health and well-being of our residents as well as our staff, and which may be a critical step in reuniting our residents and family members in the near future.

Please be assured you will be promptly notified by phone if your loved one is identified as a suspected or positive case of COVID-19, is on a quarantined unit, or has any other significant change in condition. You will find past Family and Resident Updates on our website at www.guwin.org/family-updates/ should you need to access them.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and understanding.

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.

Go to bit.ly/GurwinVisits to schedule a 10-minute Drive-Up Visit. Residents whose units are on quarantine may not attend Drive-Up Visits at this time.


Our inaugural Festival of Lights Drive-Thru Display will take place Monday, December 14 and Tuesday, December 15 from 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm. Made possible by our generous sponsors, the event is a fun way to enjoy a few moments of holiday cheer from the safety of your car.

Brighten our residents' holidays by donating a small, unwrapped gift, such as socks, toiletries, or puzzle books and pens!

Click here for more information!