

Gurwin Jewish Nursing & Rehabilitation Center

WEEKLY UPDATE AND VISITATION INFORMATION

Wednesday, December 30, 2020

5:00 PM

Dear Gurwin Residents and Family Members:

Today we had a team from the NY State Department of Health (DOH) in our facility to survey our infection control protocols. This is the sixth such survey we've had since COVID-19 began, and the third in two months. The team, comprised of three surveyors, looks at every aspect of infection control in our building, from housekeeping/disinfecting practices and PPE usage, to nursing practices and policy adherence. The team again had no findings, noting that our team should be considered 'modern-day heroes.' They were particularly impressed with the level of training our staff receives throughout the year, specifically as it pertains to infection control practices. We are very proud of all employees for their diligence in doing all they can to keep our residents - and themselves - safe.

We want to take this opportunity to thank you for your prayers, understanding and care during this past year, which has been difficult for all of us. To those of you who reached out to us via email, phone, on Facebook and through letters - your kind words and uplifting messages have really gone a long way to lift the spirits of our staff during the most challenging times in our history as a nation, and in our own Gurwin community. We join with you in looking forward to good times ahead. Our best wishes to all for a happy, healthy 2021.

Sincerely,
The Gurwin Care Team

Consents for COVID-19 Vaccine

As you know, our first COVID-19 clinic was held at Gurwin on Monday, December 21, and approximately 350 residents and staff received their first dose of the two-dose Pfizer

vaccine from our pharmacy partner, Walgreens. Our next clinic, where the second dose will be administered, is also for those who did not receive their first dose in December but who do wish to consent to being vaccinated. This clinic



will be held on Monday, January 11; however, consents for those receiving their first dose must be received by the end of the day Monday, January 4 in order to reserve enough vaccines for administration. If your loved one was not vaccinated and you want them to be, and you are his/her decision-maker, please visit www.gurwin.org/covid-19-vaccine/ to access the forms necessary for consent. Please email consent forms to covidvaccine@gurwin.org.

Visitation Update

As of this writing, the community spread in Suffolk County for COVID-19 is almost 9%, and we have had a number of positive test results for our residents and staff over the past few weeks. As such, our planned date for reopening for In-Person and Drive-Up Visits is January 15. This is contingent on no new cases among staff or residents, the receipt of testing results, and DOH approval.

COVID-19 Update

As you know, we are required to inform you any time we have a new positive case of COVID-19 among our staff or residents, as well as to provide weekly updates on the incidence of the COVID-19 virus in our facility and our cumulative numbers associated with the pandemic since its inception.

At this time, we have 11 residents in our COVID-19 isolation unit, with one cleared yesterday to return to his/her usual unit. All units are on quarantine, due to DOH requirements. Since the pandemic began, we have successfully rehabilitated more than 165 residents, and mourn the loss of 61 of our residents to COVID-19. We have had 192 staff members test positive for the disease since March, many of whom are asymptomatic and found through our weekly surveillance testing of employees. Regardless, any staff person who tests positive is required to quarantine at home for at least 14 days, and is only able to return to work after receiving a negative clinical test.

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 floor which is quarantined, or has any other significant change in condition. You will find past Family and Resident Updates on our website at www.gurwin.org/family-updates/ should you need to access them.

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

Gurwin Healthcare System

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