

## Gurwin Jewish Nursing & Rehabilitation Center

**WEEKLY UPDATE**  
**Tuesday, February 23, 2021**  
**5:15 PM**

Dear Gurwin Residents and Family Members:

As you may have heard, Governor Cuomo announced last Friday there would be good news regarding visitation in nursing homes, with details to be delivered early this week. Late yesterday, we received the anticipated guidance from the NY State Department of Health (DOH), and, although the rules around the actual visits have been improved, the regulations did not remove the 14-day COVID-19-free restriction for staff and residents; our high hopes of having our families and residents reunited were dashed with the release of the regulations.

You can find the full guidance [here](#).

We know this is upsetting news; however, it is important to note that Gurwin is not alone in not meeting the criteria for visitation. According to LeadingAge NY, a trade association for not-for-profit nursing homes, less than 15% of all facilities in New York are currently able to allow visitors under the 14-day COVID-19-free regulation. Testing our staff twice-weekly, while helpful in identifying those with the virus, also means we are more likely to have a staff person test positive.

As of now, units on quarantine are as follows:

Unit	Quarantine Period Ends (pending no new positive results)
Memory Care	Off quarantine
2 North	Isolation Unit – quarantine is indefinite
2 South	3/7/2021, pending test results (resident specific quarantine after 3/7)
3 North	3/4/2021, pending test results (resident specific quarantine after 3/4)
3 South	2/26/2021 pending test results
4 North	Off quarantine except for readmissions (resident specific, pending results)
4 South	3/2/2021, pending test results
3 East	Off quarantine
3 West	3/2/2021, pending test results
4 East	3/2/2021, pending test results
4 West	3/2/2021, pending test results

As of 2/23/21

As you know, we are required by the NY State Department of Health 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. Since yesterday, we have been alerted of new positive tests for one staff member and three residents.

Should a resident test positive, they are moved to our COVID-19 isolation unit, where they are cared for for a minimum of 14 days and until a negative clinical test result is received. Currently, we have 27 residents on this unit. Since the pandemic began, we have celebrated almost 200 recoveries; sadly, we continue to mourn the 63 residents who were lost to the virus.

Since March, 248 staff members have tested positive for the virus. Most staff members who test positive are asymptomatic and found through our weekly surveillance testing protocols. Regardless, any staff member testing positive is required to quarantine at home for 14 days, and may only return to work after receiving a negative clinical test result.

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/](http://www.gurwin.org/family-updates/) should you need to access them.

Please stay safe, and thank you, as always, for your support and understanding.

Sincerely,  
The Gurwin Care Team

---

Send your loved one a **Gurwin Gram Gram!** Record a short (one minute or less) video, and send it by email or via WeTransfer ([www.wetransfer.com](http://www.wetransfer.com)) to [info@gurwin.org](mailto:info@gurwin.org).

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

**Gurwin Healthcare System**

631.715.2000 | 68 Hauppauge Road ▪ Commack, NY 11725 | [gurwin.org](http://gurwin.org)

