Dear Gurwin Residents and Family Members:

For those who have been able to visit here at the Gurwin Center so far this week, we hope that you are happy to have seen your loved ones in person and that you felt the process was efficient. We are, of course, working out the kinks, and anticipate there will be expanded opportunities for visits in the coming weeks.

As a start, we have found the process allows for longer visits; beginning tomorrow, all visits will be 30 minutes in duration, expanded from 15 minutes as originally scheduled. If you are already signed up, just be aware that visits will proceed as scheduled; however, the second shift of each morning, afternoon or evening session will begin 15 minutes later than originally scheduled. You will receive an email if your visit is affected. Unfortunately, this expanded time accommodation will not be extended to our Memory Care Unit due to the special needs of the residents being cared for in that community.

Some things to remember when visiting:

- The visiting situation is a fluid one. The newest guidance from the NY State Department of Health (DOH) has changed visiting requirements, but not infection control requirements. Therefore, when we have a positive resident or staff member, this will immediately pause visitation until a full round of testing of staff and residents is complete. Additional positive tests may adjust visitation on specific units for specific periods - this is a requirement by the DOH. Although disappointing, please understand that this is to be expected as long as our staff is required to be tested twice-weekly and community spread on Long Island remains high.

- Visit bit.ly/GurwinVisits to schedule your In-Person Visits. PLEASE NOTE: There are THREE different sign up sheets: one for those on the Memory Care Unit (1N and 1S); one for those on a vent/trach or high-flow oxygen; and one for the remainder of the units. Please be sure to sign up on the appropriate list, as it will be difficult to honor mistakes if the schedule is full.
Visits will now be 30 minutes in duration (15 minutes for the Memory Care Unit). We ask that you arrive 10 minutes prior to your visit, and respect others' time by leaving when your visit time is over. The visiting area will be cleaned and disinfected after each session.

If you are bringing a gift or food item to your loved one: please understand that if it is larger than something they can easily hold while being transported back to the unit, it will need to be placed on a cart and brought to them later. **Food items CANNOT be consumed in the visitation area;** masks must remain on at all times, so no food or drink is allowed in the area. Thank you for your cooperation.

Visits for Memory Care Unit (MCU) residents will be held on the MCU, therefore, visitors should enter through the main lobby entrance. Respiratory Care (Vent) Unit resident visits will also be held on the unit - visitors for the Respiratory Care Unit and all others (not MCU) must enter through the Adult Day Care Program area (you know this entrance from Drive-Up Visits). Please park safely at the curb. General visits will be indoors; as the weather improves, outside patios will be available as well.

All visitors will be screened upon entering. This includes a temperature check and completion of a form answering specific questions about whether you have symptoms of COVID-19, have had exposure to anyone who has COVID-19, and recent travel. Obviously, if you are not feeling well or have COVID-19, we ask that you postpone your visit.

Once you sign up for your visit, "Sign-Up Genius" will send you the screening form, which we encourage you to complete prior to checking in, as this will speed up the check-in process.

Although it is not mandatory, **we strongly encourage visitors to be tested for COVID-19 within 2-3 days of a visit.**

**Vaccination is also encouraged.** If you are not vaccinated and would like to be, our in-house Pharmacy team may be able to help. Email covidvaccine@gurwin.org for more information.

All visitors will be required to sanitize their hands upon entry, before visiting with a resident, and before leaving the building.

MASKS MUST BE WORN properly the entire time visitors are in the building. To be worn properly, masks must cover the nose and extend beyond the chin.

For residents whose health status prevents them from leaving their room, or for those who go to our Dialysis Center, please contact your loved one's social worker to make alternate visiting accommodations.

**As a reminder, visitation will be restricted for 14 days for new admissions/readmissions, residents who leave the building for medical appointments, and for those who leave on pass.** This is to
ensure proper infection control practices, and is approved by the NY State Department of Health. We appreciate your understanding.

- Please understand that we can accommodate one visit for each resident per week to start, with no more than two visitors at one time. Visitors must be 12-years old or older; no pets at this time, please.

**Weekly Cumulative Statistics for COVID-19**

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. We have one new positive test result to report for a staff member today; as a reminder, staff members testing positive must quarantine for 14 days, and may only return to work after receipt of a negative clinical test result. As this person was tested on Monday, our full testing of residents on Monday satisfies the testing requirement, and visitation is only paused on the units affected.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Quarantine Period Ends (pending no new positive results)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Memory Care</td>
<td>Off precautions/visiting permitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 North</td>
<td>New Admission/Isolation Unit – quarantine is indefinite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 South</td>
<td>Off precautions/visiting permitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 North</td>
<td>Off precautions/visiting permitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 South</td>
<td>4/13/2021, pending test results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 North</td>
<td>4/13/2021, pending test results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 South</td>
<td>Off precautions/visiting permitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 East</td>
<td>4/13/2021, pending test results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 West</td>
<td>Off precautions/visiting permitted</td>
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<td>4 East</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 West</td>
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</tbody>
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As of 3/31/21

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 no residents who are COVID-19 positive in our facility. Since the pandemic began, we have celebrated well more than 200 recoveries; sadly, we mourn 66 residents who were lost to the virus.

Since March 2020, 271 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. More than 50% of our staff is now vaccinated against COVID-19.

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. Thank you, as always, for your support. We look forward to seeing you soon!

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.


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**Gurwin Healthcare System**

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

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