



To: The Garden at Pine Run Health Center Residents, Families and Loved Ones
From: Mary Beth Baringer, Administrator
Date: March 11, 2021
Re: Visitation Updates / COVID-19

The Garden at Pine Run Health Center remains COVID-19 free at this time. In addition, today marks 14 days since skilled nursing housed in the floors below us in this building have had any identified positive cases of COVID-19 identified. Bucks County's current positivity rate is currently 6.5%. This in conjunction with updated CMS Guidelines for Nursing Home Visitation – COVID-19 released late on 3/10/2021 have lead us to update our visitation guidelines for The Garden. Infection prevention practices must be maintained given the continued risk of COVID-19 transmission.

Visitation Guidelines / Infection Prevention Practices for ALL in-person visits: All visitors must properly wear well-fitted **face masks** during their entire visit, use an **alcohol-based hand sanitizer** before and after the visit, preferably maintain a **social distance** of a minimum of six feet, **stay in their designated facility visiting location, sign in** and provide contact information if coming indoors and sign out upon departure, and **adhere to screening protocols**. We request that visitations not occur during resident mealtimes which are approximately 8am-9:30am, Noon-1:30pm, and 5-6:30pm. Please enter/exit the building through our main lobby. In-person visits need not be scheduled at this time.

Core principles of COVID-19 infection, including physical distancing (maintaining at least six feet between people), continue to be the safest way to prevent the spread of COVID-19, particularly if either party has not been fully vaccinated. However, we acknowledge the toll that separation and isolation can take. We also acknowledge that there is no substitute for physical contact, such as the warm embrace between a resident and their loved one. Therefore, **if the resident is fully vaccinated**, (defined as being equal or greater than 2 weeks following a second doses series or single-dose series), they can choose to have close contact (including touch) with their visitor while wearing a well-fitting face mask and performing hand-hygiene before and after. Regardless, visitors should physically distance from other residents and staff in the facility.

Outdoor visitation is preferred when weather permits utilizing the Garden patio as they allow extra space and airflow even when the resident and visitor is fully vaccinated. Awning or umbrellas are provided. We ask that families be respectful of other family members visiting. Visitors should not co-mingle with other residents, staff nor visitors and should remain in either the blue, green, yellow or gazebo visitation area of the patio. **Team members will evaluate if a resident can safely accept visitors in this capacity.** The number of visits may be limited to insure all families have opportunity to visit regularly. There will be a limit of 3 visitors outdoors at a single time to insure adequate space for social distancing.

Indoor visits* are permitted but we must emphasize the importance of maintaining infection prevention practices highlighted in block one. Please do NOT visit if you have any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 infection or if you have had contact with someone with COVID-19 infection in the prior 14 days (regardless of the visitor's vaccination status) **Indoor visits may be in resident's personal bedroom only.** Visitors may not visit in public areas, and should not co-mingle with other residents, staff nor visitors. **The number of visitors at one time should be limited to insure adequate social distancing in the resident's bedroom. Team members will evaluate if a resident can safely accept visitors in this capacity.** Indoor visits will continue until further guidance is published or until the county positivity rate is greater than 10%, or may change if there is outbreak of COVID-19 in the facility.

Alternative Options: Contact Life Enrichment to schedule these alternative options. We continue to offer the following options:

- Electronic visitation utilizing Skype, FaceTime, Zoom, etc.
- Plexiglas visitation booth; The Plexiglas visitation booth remains available for family members that feel more comfortable visiting with this added layer of protection.

Compassionate caregiver visits remain available at all times. A member of The Garden Administration team will review these guidelines with you in need of these circumstances.

We are excited as we return to more normalcy in the lives for our residents, and will continue to work diligently in partnership with you the family members in keeping our residents safe. We're so happy to have family members once again at The Garden!