
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL STAFF
FROM: LINDSAY DICKIESON, ADMINISTRATOR
SUBJECT: COVID IN ANOTHER LONG-TERM CARE HOME
DATE: JULY 4, 2020



UPDATE
#1

Today there was an announcement from the Chief Public Health Office of a positive case of Covid-19 in a long-term care home: Whisperwood Villa. If you were in contact with anyone who lives or works at Whisperwood Villa, you must immediately self isolate and call 1-855-354-4358 and choose option 1 for a Covid-19 test, even if you do not have symptoms.

Update will be by these memos and Bamtext, so please ensure you are staying up to date as information may change quickly. A memo board will be placed at each screening station and you must read the memo before proceeding to work. **It is your responsibility to stay up to date on this information.**

Effective Immediately:

- Staff: If you have been in contact with a staff member or resident of Whisperwood Villa (WWV), you must immediately self-isolate and call 1-855-354-4358 and choose option 1 for a Covid-19 test - ensure you tell them you need a rapid test as you have been in contact with someone from WWV.

Note that the testing clinic chooses whether or not you meet the criteria for a Covid-19 test, so you may or may not be tested. Please stay on self-isolation and report back to The Mount main office once you've talked to the testing clinic, even if they tell you not to get tested. We will then let you know how to proceed.

- Residents are screened twice a day for symptoms and temperatures are taken.
- Staff are screened prior to their shift (same as we have been doing) and once during the shift.
- Staff who are told to leave shift will be paid for the time off as it is a requirement of The Mount.
- Visitors with any contact with a staff member or resident of Whisperwood Villa on June 30 may not visit. They should call 811.

Continue with:

- Staff may only work in 1 long-term care facility
- Ongoing monitoring of your own health and resident health
- Wearing a mask during your shift
- Performing hand hygiene
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting
- Residents practicing social distancing. At this time, residents are not isolated to their rooms UNLESS they are symptomatic or have been in possible contact with Covid-19.
- Residents will continue to eat in the dining rooms and be allowed to travel throughout the house.
- Visits will continue with the same protocols in place. Visitors who have been in contact with anyone (staff, resident, volunteer, etc.) at Whisperwood Villa on June 30 will not be able to visit.

Unknown Items: we will update you on these as soon as we have information:

- Staff return to work after bring in contact with someone from WWV: this will be done on a case by case basis.
- Resident medical appointments – there is a possibility that appointments will be postponed

- Testing: We continue to follow the regular testing protocols
- Move-ins: We have no information on whether or not we can have new move-ins to long-term care. We do not currently have any planned move-ins.
- Further restrictions on staff: there are currently some allowances for staff to work at another place of employment, it cannot be a long-term care facility. This may change.

Covid-19 Symptoms are broad, you must monitor yourself carefully:

- new or worsening cough
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- fever
- chills
- sore throat
- runny nose, sneezing, congestion
- headache
- muscle aches
- unusual fatigue
- acute loss of sense of smell or taste

Gastrointestinal symptoms like nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea have been reported, but typically in conjunction with other COVID-19 symptoms, and may be more frequent in children.

When any member of a household develops symptoms consistent with COVID-19, all members of the household must begin self-isolation and monitor for symptoms until the test results return.

The virus is most commonly spread when an infected person coughs or sneezes, and the droplets land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby, or inhaled into the lungs.

You may also catch it from touching something with the virus on it, then touching your eyes, nose or mouth before washing your hands.



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