



**ATTENTION: VILLAS RESIDENTS, FAMILY MEMBERS AND TEAM MEMBERS**

**IMPORTANT – 9/27/2021 COVID-19 UPDATE – please read this in its entirety.**

In accordance with shared recommendations for the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH) and others, we are required to notify you each time there is a change or development in our Covid-19 status, including new cases among residents and/or team members. We are also required to notify you if we admit a resident with a Covid-19 diagnosis even if they have met the criteria for discontinuation of transmission-based precautions.

We have been notified that one of our team members who works on Gardens B has tested positive for Covid-19.

Following new guidance recently released for long-term care facilities by the CDC, CMS and PADOH, we are implementing new guidelines for the impacted neighborhood (Gardens B) effective immediately.

- ALL RESIDENTS ON GARDENS B will be tested immediately and again 5-7 days after their most recent contact.
- Any Gardens B staff identified as a close contact or higher risk exposure will be tested immediately and again at 5-7 days after exposure.
- We will notify everyone of test results as they become available.
- Residents of Gardens B who are fully vaccinated do NOT need to quarantine; however, they are to wear masks at any time when out of their room. **Visitation is not suspended for fully vaccinated residents. However, visitors must be aware that the risk of exposure to COVID 19 is greater during periods in which there are known cases within the building and should they have concerns about these risks, they may want to consider whether it is appropriate to visit at this time.** Residents should wear their masks with any visitors present.
- Any resident(s) of Gardens B who is/are **NOT fully vaccinated must quarantine for 14 days. Visitation IS suspended and limited to compassionate care/end of life visitation only during this time period.** Residents potentially exposed who are not fully vaccinated are considered in a YELLOW zone and full PPE must be worn during care/visitation.

We are taking a cautious stance to suspend dining in the dining room through at least the first round of testing. Meals will be delivered via tray service and further action will be determined based on the results of testing.

All other neighborhoods are not impacted by these changes.

We will continue to perform other routine testing of team members as per PADOH and CMS guidance. In addition, any team members who present with symptoms consistent with Covid-19 will continue to be taken off the schedule and advised to consult with their clinician. Any resident(s) who present with symptoms consistent with Covid-19 are tested.

As visitation continues, we ask all visitors (regardless of vaccination status) to please keep your masks on during your visit. In an abundance of caution, we would ask this during outside visits as well.

Furthermore, regardless of vaccination status, please postpone visitation if you have any cold or respiratory symptoms or if you have been around anyone with cold or respiratory symptoms in the last 14 days.

Please see the attached memo regarding the core principles of infection control and for a complete list of our visitation guidelines. Thank you!

If you have any questions regarding this communication or St Paul's plan of action please contact Tammy Lininger, Administrator at the Villas or Leann McCurdy, Director of Nursing at the Villas.