

The Springvale Inn

Good afternoon to all family members. We have some updates on visitation.

Outdoor visitation may occur even during an Outbreak for residents that are *not on isolation for COVID-19 positive, suspected of COVID, or are not on quarantine*. Quarantined residents include those identified as exposed through contact tracing as close contacts of someone with COVID-19. This includes non- vaccinated new admissions on 14-day quarantine.

At present we are proud to inform you we have no active COVID-cases.

The facility may conduct visitation through different means, based on a facilities structure and resident needs. Regardless of how visits are conducted there are certain core principles and best practices that reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission including, but not limited to:

- Screening of all who enter the facility for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g. temperature checks, questions about and observations of signs or symptoms), and denial of entry to those with signs or symptoms OR those who have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 infection in the prior 14 days (**regardless of the visitor's vaccination status**). Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. No one under the age of 12 is allowed.
- Hand hygiene (use of alcohol-based hand rub is preferred)
- The use of face coverings or masks (covering both mouth and nose)
- Social distancing of at least six feet between persons (this may limit the number of visitors that can be accommodated at any one time).
- Instructional signage throughout the facility and proper visitor education on COVID-19 signs and symptoms, infection control precautions and other facility practices (e.g. use of face coverings, specified entry area, and areas of visitation, hand hygiene).
- Cleaning and disinfecting high frequency touched surfaces in the facility often, and designated visitation areas after each visit.
- Appropriate staff use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- The facility has protocols to separate residents into cohorts of positive, negative, and unknown as well as separate staffing teams **as practicable** to deal with COVID-positive residents and non-positive resident.
- *Visitors who are unable to adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention should not be permitted to visit or should be asked to leave.*
- Facilities will schedule visitation times to ensure that all residents will have an opportunity to receive visitors. Visitation may take place everyday but the number of visitors are limited. To schedule an appointment please continue to e-mail Patricia.Kiggins@bethelwell.org, BSI.Desk@bethelwell.org,
- Visitor movement in the facility should be limited and mask worn at all times.
- **If a resident is fully vaccinated they may choose to have close contact (including touch) with their unvaccinated visitor while wearing a well-fitting mask and [both] performing hand hygiene before and after.**

- **If a resident is FULLY VACCINATED and their visitor is FULLY VACCINATED, and the resident and visitor(s) are alone in the resident room or designated visitation room, the resident and visitor may choose to have close contact (including touch) without a mask or face covering.**
- Regardless, visitors should physically distance from other residents and staff in the facility.
- **Although visitors are not REQUIRED be tested or vaccinated in order to visit: we strongly encourage visitors to test in the 72 hours prior to visiting. We also strongly encourage visitors to be vaccinated; doing both these things will better protect their loved ones.**

If anything at Bethel Springvale Inn changes, we will notify you immediately. Please contact us at any time via e-mail or phone or for more COVID questions submit questions to the Department at: icp@health.ny.gov, or covidadultcareinfo@health.ny.gov

Please contact me with any questions @ Patricia.Kiggins@bethelwell.org or call 914-739-4404.

Thank you and stay healthy,

Patti

Administrator