

## The Waters Senior Living – 10.4.21 (COVID-19 Update)

### To: Residents, Family Members, Team Members – The Waters Senior Living

The last COVID status update you received in August of this year conveyed that, after many months of no cases, we had begun to see the rise of breakthrough cases. The vast majority of recent COVID cases at The Waters have been individuals who were fully vaccinated. Therefore, we anxiously await the availability of booster shots.

Today, we'd like to provide an update about what's been done since August and what our next steps are as we continue to navigate through the ongoing COVID conditions.

#### Here's what's been done:

- **Education** - Provided additional information to team members related to increased cases and education about infection control measures and vaccination.
- **Testing** - Increased the frequency of testing to a minimum of one time per week for unvaccinated team members.

The good news is that, with these efforts, we have seen an improvement in team member vaccination rates throughout The Waters and our resident vaccination rate remains strong at nearly 100%.

Now, in light of the Biden administration's announcement that companies of 100 or more employees need to require employees to get vaccinated, or submit to weekly testing for the virus, we await specific guidance for how this will be administered.

Some of you may be wondering if team members or other residents are vaccinated. We want to inform you that we have a responsibility to uphold the confidentiality of personal health information, for all who live in, and work at, The Waters. Regardless of the vaccination status, The Waters continues to expect the proper use of PPE (i.e. masks and infection control measures).

#### Updates:

- **Booster Clinics** - We have residents and team members that have received Moderna, Pfizer, or Johnson and Johnson (J&J) vaccine series.
  - The CDC recommendation is to continue with a booster following the same primary type (Moderna, Pfizer, J&J).
  - On September 24<sup>th</sup>, the CDC issued the recommendation for the Pfizer booster and issued guidance for timing (at least six months following the second dose of the primary series) and population type (people 65 years and older, residents in long-term care settings, healthcare workers, and individuals 18 years and older with underlying medical conditions).
  - We await the FDA's approval and guidance of the Moderna and J&J boosters. Once approval and guidance are received, we will expedite efforts to schedule the booster clinics in partnership with the pharmacies.
  - Some of you who have received the vaccine at non-Waters locations, may have received the Pfizer or J&J vaccine. You may already be receiving letters from those providers/locations to schedule the booster. Please proceed accordingly and notify the Business Operations Manager or Director of Health and Wellbeing, so that we can keep our vaccination records up to date.

- As we partner with the pharmacy, we will be requesting some information from you in preparation for the future clinic.
- **Continued Weekly Testing** – We have mandated weekly testing for unvaccinated team members.
- **Continued Monitoring** - We are continuing to *monitor information* from the CDC and state and local health organizations, and await further guidance from the Biden administration.

As always, your safety and wellbeing remains our number one priority. We will remain fully transparent about how, together, we proceed and will communicate in a timely way to keep you informed.

Please feel welcome to also contact your respective community's Executive Director with any questions.

**Sincerely,**

**Tami A. Kozikowski** | President and Chief Executive Officer  
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