

## Family/Caregiver and Resident Update

March 12, 2021

We have just received confirmation from the Eastern Ontario Health Unit (EOHU) that the entire Manor must go under contact precautions. The EOHU stated the following:

*In response to the evolving situation related to COVID-19 variants of concern (VOCs), the Eastern Ontario Health Unit continues to recommend that Long Term Care Homes follow the current Ministry of Health COVID-19 Outbreak Guidance for Long-Term Care Homes (LTCH) document. The overall goal is to stop/slow the spread of COVID-19 and its variants in order to mitigate the impacts on residents and staff.*

*We recognize that most residents have had both doses of vaccine and are protected to some extent. Recognizing this, we have requested to the Ministry to revisit some of the outbreak protocols when situations like yours arises.*

*We will of course inform you of any changes.*

This means that:

- All residents must be isolated to their rooms effective March 12, 2021 at 1300 hrs
- Prior to entering a resident room, staff must don full PPE
- Prior to leaving a resident room, staff must doff their PPE
- Excellent hand hygiene practices are to remain in place
- Staff must continue to wear mask and face shield while at work and must continue to be screened at the front entrance both prior to and after work
- Residents are provided sponge baths within their rooms for the duration of the outbreak
- PCR testing will be required twice per week on Tuesday and Friday effective March 15, 2021 for both staff and essential caregivers
  - o Staff: Tuesday, March 16 and March 19 from 7-9:30 and 1-3pm in the staff room
  - o Essential Caregivers: March 16 and March 19 from 10-noon via drive thru

For the weekend of March 13-14, 2021, PCR Testing and Rapid Antigen Testing will be done on all essential caregivers prior to entry to the Manor. As per outbreak protocol, only one essential caregiver can visit a resident at a time.

We recommend that if you have any comments or questions about the direction being provided by the health unit and reasoning, please contact the Eastern Ontario Health Unit directly at 1-800-267-7120.

Thank you for your understanding in advance as we navigate this ever-changing environment.