



Preakness Healthcare Center

A Legacy of Caring since 1929

Update, December 14, 2020

Please Note: This Update is posted on the Passaic County website, the Passaic County Facebook page, distributed through the Constant Contact email group for families who have elected to provide their email address and is distributed to all staff. Our Social Workers and Therapeutic Recreation staff distribute the Update to residents who wish to receive it.

Today, we completed the required antigen testing in accordance with the NJ Department of Health's "Long-term Care Testing Regimen Pilot Program". Since the last Update, one staff tested positive for COVID-19 based on an antigen test: a nurse from resident unit 1-300. In addition, a service technician from a contracted company tested positive and was not permitted to enter. All visitors and service personnel will continue to be tested with the antigen tests. We are resuming weekly testing for staff.

Residents continue to be tested weekly. 99 results from the resident testing on December 7 through December 14, 2020 are pending. All results received to date have been negative.

The 1-300 resident unit was placed on quarantine status. Essential caregiver visitation may occur on all units except 1-300. Outdoor visitation may occur on all units except 1-300, weather permitting, as we prepare for our first snowstorm of the season. As a reminder, Essential Caregiver Visitation and outdoor visitation may not occur for residents on 2-400 C (observation unit) and 3-400 C (COVID positive unit).

We are preparing for the administration of the COVID-19 vaccines for residents and staff who wish to receive it. CVS will provide all services related to the administration of the vaccine. The receipt of the consent forms is pending as well as the dates that CVS will have staff on-site to administer the vaccines. All healthcare personnel, paid and unpaid, serving in health care settings who have the potential for direct or indirect exposure to residents or infectious materials are eligible to receive the vaccine. Essential caregivers are included within this designation. If you are an Essential caregiver and wish to receive the vaccine at Preakness, please inform Cristina Hucalla, Infection Preventionist at 973-585-2181 or by email at THucalla@passaiccountynj.org.

If you have an urgent call or complaint, please call Preakness Healthcare Center Security staff at 973-317-7023 and your call will be directed to the appropriate person. In addition, Dr. Geoffrey Mugalu, Assistant Executive Director may be reached at 973-585-2113 to address any concerns.

Please call 973-585-2145 to speak with Lisandro Perez, Jr to schedule an outdoor visit, weather

permitting, or if your role as an Essential Caregiver has been approved, to schedule an indoor Essential Caregiver visit.

Virtual visits may be arranged by calling Alina Zalenski, Director of Therapeutic Recreation at 973-585-2124 or Lee Livingston, Senior Recreation Therapist at 973-585-2163. If there is a request for hair salon services, you may direct the request to Ms. Zalenski or Ms. Livingston.

Passaic County continues to offer free COVID-19 testing at home and at mobile sites for Passaic County residents. Please see the Passaic County website (passaiccountynj.org) for the details.

As always, many thanks for the work of our staff and the sacrifices they make and the continued support we receive during these challenging and emotional times. ***Preakness Strong Heroes Continue to Work Here!***

Sincerely,

Lucinda Corrado, LNHA
Executive Director