



MEADOWVIEW NURSING AND REHABILITATION CENTER POLICY & PROCEDURE

INFECTION PREVENTION AND OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT PLAN DURING NATIONAL/STATE EMERGENCY FOR COVID-19

OBJECTIVE: It is the policy of Meadowview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center to develop a comprehensive Outbreak Management Plan that establishes a facility-wide system for the prevention, surveillance identification, investigation, mitigation and control of infections of residents, staff, associate practitioners and community members.

SCOPE: All Staff, Vendors, Consultants, Volunteers

POLICY:

1. Identify resident with respiratory symptoms, cough, congestion, runny nose, fatigue/malaise, shortness of breath, temperature 2° above resident's baseline, sore throat, muscle or body aches / pains, chills, new loss of taste or smell and / or nausea / vomiting / diarrhea. Symptom observation and identification as per the NJDOH/CDC guidelines.
2. Surveillance of all residents: blood pressure, pulse, respirations, pain, and SPO2 will be obtained as per NJDOH recommendation.
3. If a resident confirmed positive (+) for Covid-19:
 - a. Notify primary care physician (PCP) that the Contagious Respiratory Outbreak Protocol is being initiated as per facility policy.
 - b. Resident will be placed in appropriate Transmission Based Precaution and transferred to designated Covid (+) area as per NJDOH guidelines.
 - c. Local DOH will be notified of any confirm positive cases.
 - d. Contagious Respiratory Outbreak Protocol will continue until Infection Preventionist Nurse / designee makes recommendation to discontinue the Transmission Based Precautions.
4. Resident classified as Person Under Investigations (PUIs):
 - a. Resident Admitted or Readmitted from another facility. The resident will remain on the designated quarantine area for 14 days.
 - b. Resident with Covid-19 symptom observed and identified as per the NJDOH/CDC guidelines will be tested for Covid-19.
 - c. If Rapid Covid-19 Ag test conducted was positive, resident will be transferred to designated Covid (+) area as per NJDOH guidelines.
 - d. Contagious Respiratory Outbreak Protocol will continue until Infection Preventionist Nurse / designee makes recommendations.



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5. The In-House Pandemic Committee will meet as needed.
 - a. Committee consist of representatives
 - i. Medical Director
 - ii. Infection Preventionist Nurse
 - iii. Nursing
 - iv. Environmental Services
 - v. Administrator / designee
 - b. Ad Hoc Representatives
 - i. Dietary
 - ii. Social Services
 - iii. Therapy
6. Mandated PPE
 - a. All persons including staff, vendors, contractors, medical personal, etc. entering the building must wear a medical grade surgical mask.
 - b. Only designated Staff / Medical Personal are permitted on the Covid (+) or PUI designated areas.
 - i. Staff / Medical Personal must use closed and tied back gowns, gloves, N-95 or equivalent respirator, hair bonnet and shoe covers when working with Covid (+) or PUI residents.
 - ii. N95 will be removed before leaving designated Covid (+) and PUI areas. New medical grade surgical mask will be worn in Non-Covid (+) and PUI areas.
 - iii. N95 masks to be decontaminated in accordance with CDC guidelines.
7. Encourage all resident to remain in room. If resident insists on leaving room, they must use a mask. Resident who must be in common areas for safety precautions should be seated six (6) feet away from other residents and continue to use a mask. If the resident could not tolerate use of the mask, the resident will be encouraged to keep 6 feet apart from others and their care plan will be individualized.
8. Remind and assist resident to perform hand hygiene frequently and always when entering / exiting a room.



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Building Entrance

1. Front doors will be locked for entrance.
2. No visitation during Covid-19 National/State Emergency and/or during an In-house/Suspect Case. All visitation as approved by Administration. Exception as follows:
 - a. Resident – end of life is in the immediate future or the visit is an essential part of the resident’s Plan of Care. Special accommodations will be made for visitation for Compassionate Visits or Essential Caregiver.
 - i. Immediate notification to the house supervisor before entering the building. Upon their initial arrival, they will be educated on the Quarantine / Enhanced Precaution Procedures and the risks of visitation.
 - ii. The visitor will be expected to fill out the Meadowview Health Questionnaire Form and have their temperature taken prior to each visit.
 - iii. Release from Responsibility form will be filled out prior to the initial visit.
 - iv. The visitor will be expected to wear our gown, gloves and mask.
 - v. No contact with staff or other residents
 - vi. Will be escorted to the resident’s room by the house supervisor/designee
 - vii. Will be escorted to the front building once visitation has been concluded
 - viii. Staff will be notified of whom was granted permission for visitation.

**Excluding visitation from highly epidemic area unless prior approved by administration **

- b. Health Care Providers
 - i. All providers will be notified of visitation privileges throughout the different phases of Covid-19 restriction. Accommodations were made to allow Telehealth, when necessary.
3. All person entering the building are required to perform hand hygiene, then complete the questionnaire. Their temperature will be taken. Exception: EMT emergency services.
 - a. Notify house supervisor if temp greater than or equal to 99°F and person will be required to exit the building and wait for the supervisor.
 - b. All non-staff entering the building will also have a Rapid Covid-19 Ag test done. They will remain in the designated area until results obtained.
4. Outside visitation with resident permitted, weather permitting. Contingency plan set-up via web base portal for appointment scheduling, restrictions and guidelines.



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5. LTCFs reopening are subject to the State of New Jersey remaining out of the “maximum restrictions Stage” described in *The Road Back: Restoring Economic Health through Public Health* reopening plan. If at any point during the public health response the state returns to the “maximum restrictions Stage,” **all facilities**, including Meadowview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, covered by this Directive must return to the maximum restrictions of Phase zero (0), as described herein.
 - a. Meadowview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in-doors visitation is restricted until facility is able to move to the appropriate Phase for in-door visitations.

Transportation Company

1. Transport aide or Transport Companies will be stopped by the security guard from entering the building when they are not following facility policy. Immediate notification of house supervisor.
 - a. They will be required to perform hand hygiene, complete the questionnaire, wear a mask, and have their temperature taken at the front desk.
 - b. Transportation via wheelchair or ambulation
 - i. Transporter will remain in lobby and the resident will be brought to the lobby.
 - ii. Resident will be required to wear a mask and gown prior to leaving the building. They will be required to remove gown prior to re-entering the unit and apply a new mask. Resident will be required to perform hand hygiene at the front desk.
 - c. Transportation via stretcher
 - i. Transporter will be required to wear the following PPE before entering the designated unit
 1. Mask
 2. Gown
 - ii. Resident will be required to wear a mask and gown prior to leaving the building. They will be required to remove gown prior to re-entering the unit and apply new mask. Resident will be required to perform hand hygiene at the front desk.



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Communal Dining and Group Activities

1. Exclude all communal gathering during pandemic alert. This includes dining, group activities, and social gathering. This is subjected to change based on the “*The Road Back: Restoring Economic Health through Public Health*” reopening plan. Meadowview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center is subjected to following this guidelines. This will depend on the phase Meadowview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center is currently in at that moment and time.
2. Resident are encourage to eat in their rooms. If this cannot occur, then all residents will remain six (6) feet apart from each other during meal services. If in the dayroom, only one resident per table.
3. Non-nursing staff were crossed trained with feeding resident.
4. Group activities will be discontinued. 1:1 room visits will be increased and offered to all residents. Utilizing of Facetime with residents and family members will be encouraged. Overhead speaker will be used to participate in group activities i.e. calling bingo.
5. Therapy will be done at bedside level for all confirmed Covid-19 residents. Resident quarantine due to admission or readmission can be seen by therapy individually after all non-quarantine residents were treated / evaluated. Appropriate disinfecting will occur between residents.

Environmental Services

1. Confirmed/suspected case in Atlantic County
 - a. Increase of wiping down all guard rails throughout the building with chlorhexidine or 1 to 10 ratio of bleach solution at least twice during dayshift and minimally once after 5pm at the nursing units
 - b. Daily cleaning per resident’s room as assigned.
2. Suspected or confirmed case in facility
 - a. One environmental service personnel will be assigned to designated area.
 - b. All surface areas in the hallway will be wiped down twice daily.
 - c. Room cleaning with chlorhexidine or 1 to 10 ratio of bleach solution frequently.
 - d. Hospital grade plastic barrier will be placed in the hallway separating the suspected and confirmed residents of Covid-19 as needed.



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Bed Management

1. Designation of beds during pandemic
 - a. A designated area will be assigned for positive Covid-19 residents.
 - b. All residents with Covid-19 will be moved to designated area.
 - c. All residents WITHOUT suspected or confirmed Covid-19 will be moved off designated areas for the suspected (PUIs) or confirmed Covid-19 residents.
 - d. Adjustment to this policy will be done in accordance with NJDOH recommendations and positive Covid-19 residents.

Mass Testing

1. Baseline testing for COVID-19 was performed for all residents.
2. Any resident refused to undergo COVID-19 testing will be treated as a person under investigation.
3. Residents will be cohorted in accordance with the NJDOH / CDC guidance.
4. Residents who test negative at baseline will be retested three (3) to seven (7) days after baseline testing.
5. Retesting will be performed in accordance with NJDOH / CDC guidance as amended and supplemented.
6. Baseline testing for COVID-19 will be performed for all staff.
7. Any staff member testing positive will be excluded from work in accordance with local Health Department / CDC guidance.
8. All staff testing negative at baseline will be retested three (3) to seven (7) days after baseline testing.
9. Continued testing of staff and residents as per Health Department / CDC guidelines.



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Admission Screening

1. Continued screen of all potential admissions based on NJDOH guidelines.
 - a. Admissions will be posted on Home Page of PCC with the type of isolation recommended by Infection Control Preventionist/designee. Duration will be disclosed.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

1. Inventory on hand and usage daily report will be submitted NJDOH
 - a. Mask
 - b. Googles
 - c. Mask with face shields
 - d. Isolation gowns
 - e. Gloves
 - f. Hair bonnet for isolation
 - g. Shoe covers

Discharge From Facility

1. Residents/family members will be encourage to continue safe practice in the community.
2. The following handouts will be given upon discharge:
 - a. **New Jersey Department of Health: Guidance for Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Home Isolation for Patients Diagnosed with COVID-19 UPDATED MARCH 19, 2020** <https://files.constantcontact.com/e1419ee3001/4f0313fc-88e5-498e-a9aa-eab42ebcf522.pdf>
 - b. **Close Contact of confirmed Covid-19 (Updated March 19,2020)** <https://files.constantcontact.com/e1419ee3001/8ce12392-da2c-4cd0-9507-f13581ac5ef8.pdf>
 - c. **How to Protect Yourself & Others (English and Spanish Version)** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>
 - d. **10 Ways to Manage Respiratory Symptoms at home** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/10Things.pdf>
 - e. **How COVID-19 Spreads (English and Spanish Version)** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-covid-spreads.html>
 - f. **Use of Cloth Face Coverings to Help Slow the Spread of Covid-19** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>



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g. Stop the Spread of Germs (English and Spanish Version)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/stop-the-spread-of-germs.pdf>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/stop-the-spread-of-germs-sp.pdf>

Deceased with Positive/Suspected Covid-19

1. Resident will remain in the designated area, until the funeral home can escort from facility.
2. Resident will be covered with appropriate barrier when leaving the isolation unit to help prevent spread of this virus as per CDC guidelines.

Communication with Family/Resident Representation regarding Covid Updates

1. April to August 2020, all family / resident representatives were receiving daily calls Monday through Friday of their love ones status that were deemed Covid (+) positive.
2. Civic Plus – Posting Methods for resident’s family resident representatives
 - a. Selected mode used will depend on each recipient’s request
 - i. -Voice Mail
 - ii. Text Message
 - iii. Emails
 - b. Able to have attachments sent via email, e.g. Covid-19 Vaccine Consent form from Walgreens and the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) of the Pfizer-Biontech Covid-19, so families / Resident Representative can make education decision regarding receiving the vaccine.
 - c. Provide updates to Families / Resident Representative of current status at Meadowview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
3. Designated phone to be used as the Covid Hotline for Families / Representatives to hear updates regarding current status of Meadowview Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.
 - a. 609-645-6200

References:

Accepting Patients/Residents Discharged from Hospital during COVID-19 Pandemic from NJDOH:
<https://files.constantcontact.com/e1419ee3001/fea45a1e-470e-4b41-9040-322b9c5d511d.pdf>

Letter on Hospital Discharges and Admissions to Post-Acute Care Settings from NJDOH:
<https://files.constantcontact.com/e1419ee3001/83ae500e-e979-4434-a648-a6e35ccd6f41.pdf>