

St. Vincent de Paul Rehabilitation and Nursing Center

29 Providence Avenue

Berlin, NH 03570

T: 603-752-1820

F: 603-752-7149

stvincentrehabcenter.org



April 16, 2021

Families, friends, residents and staff,

As previously mentioned the state has adjusted COVID-19 testing requirements to once monthly unless the county positivity rate is above 5% at which time we will test weekly. We tested each staff member on Tuesday as determined by the county positivity rate, unfortunately a vaccinated staff member tested positive for COVID-19. A second test was conducted on Friday with a negative result, this staff member will also have another PCR test mailed to the state lab to determine if we received a false-positive. All residents were tested for COVID-19 on Friday with PCR tests being delivered to the state lab. This positive case places us back into response mode where we may continue with Compassionate Care Visits, distanced communal dining and distanced small group activities. Although it may seem disheartening to hear a fully vaccinated individual contracted COVID-19, this is not out of the ordinary based on the 5% probability of contracting COVID-19. In addition, fully vaccinated individuals typically have mild cold-like symptoms or experience no symptoms (asymptomatic) at all which strongly reduces the chance of long-term COVID-19 side effects.

We had a Johnson and Johnson clinic scheduled for Tuesday afternoon and on Tuesday morning news was announced of the temporary suspension of the J&J vaccine. The suspension occurred for the United States medical community to review and communicate the most appropriate way to treat an extremely uncommon side effect of blood clots. This specific classification of clots is uncommon and are not treated through traditional treatment. 6.8 million doses of J&J have been administered with 6 people experiencing this side effect. Although incredibly serious, .000088% of people who received the J&J vaccine were affected. We rescheduled our vaccination clinic for Friday, April 16 with the Pfizer vaccine.

Many residents who tested positive for COVID-19 received the therapeutic treatment Bamlanivimab and had to wait to receive their second dose of the Pfizer vaccine. Our Medical Director, Dr. Cardenas, has authorized us to proceed with vaccinating all who received Bamlanivimab and the clinic is scheduled for April 29. These residents will be considered fully vaccinated on May 13.

Numerous families have been asking about sharing a meal or having an outdoor picnic during their visit. We wish we could authorize such occasions but such visitation activity is not permitted by our governing authorities. At this point we must continue to have visitors and residents wearing a well-fitted mask during their visit; regardless of vaccination status or if an outdoor visit. This mandate prevents picnicking, participate in a meal or snack during the visit. We will continue to make every attempt to accommodate every request within the allowances of our federal/state governing agencies.

As a reminder, because end-of-life visitations are not always scheduled in advance we kindly ask visitors to call prior to arriving to the visit. Calling in advance allows staff to be aware of the visit and respond timelier. Lastly, multiple family members may gather outdoors but at this time only two (2) visitors are allowed in the building even at end-of-life.

Best Regards,

Jeffrey Lacroix

Administrator

St Vincent de Paul Rehab and Nursing

29 Providence Ave

Berlin, NH 03570

(P) 603-752-1820

(F) 603-752-5766