



FAIRMOUNT COVID-19 PREVENTION AND PROTECTION UPDATE

January 14, 2022

Greetings to you in the new year!

With the uptick in COVID cases throughout the county, we have experienced several team members and residents who have tested positive since January 1.

RESIDENTS:

- No Health Care residents (other than Rehab)
- One Rehab resident
- Five Personal Care residents
- One Residential Suites resident
- Two Residential Living residents

TEAM MEMBERS:

- Fifteen Nursing team members
- Two Personal Care team members
- Four Administration team members
- One Environmental Services (maintenance) team member
- One Activity team member

Sadly, we lost a team member to COVID-19 two weeks ago. Please join us in prayer for the family and friends.

If you are feeling well, you may continue to visit with the residents. Please follow the infection prevention guidelines that are available at the front table by the kiosk. Please be aware that by visiting you could potentially be exposed or expose others to COVID-19.

DR. KRAYBILL, MEDICAL DIRECTOR AT PENN MEDICINE LANCASTER GENERAL HEALTH

Dr. Kraybill, Medical Director at Penn Medicine Lancaster General Health, provided information to health care facilities in Lancaster County. He indicated that the significant outbreak of COVID in the community is related to holiday exposures, but is complicated by the COVID Omicron variant. The CDC estimates that most of the new cases of COVID are the Omicron variant.

Omicron is significantly more contagious than the previous Delta strain, even for fully vaccinated and boosted individuals. However, there is some good news.

- Fully vaccinated and boosted individuals have significant protection from severe illness, hospitalization and death. They may still be infected and contagious to others, but are less likely to be severely ill.
- Even in unvaccinated individuals, the Omicron infection appears to cause less severe disease.

Previous infection prevention measures remain effective, and are even more important now:

- **Protection of nose and mouth** from breathing in the virus by use of appropriate masks.
 - In medium to high risk areas, N95 masks are the best.
 - In low risk areas, surgical masks give some protection but are not as effective as N95 masks.
 - Cloth masks are the least effective.
- **Hand hygiene**
- **Physical distancing**, as much as possible

We need to be diligent as we are around others and take the best possible cautions. While fully vaccinated and boosted individuals who are infected may not be very sick, they can still be contagious and may not realize that they should take extra precautions.

VACCINATION OPPORTUNITIES

Obtaining the vaccine and, if you have the vaccine, getting the booster is highly recommended. Anyone who would like to obtain the vaccine, the booster or an influenza shot, can register for one of Fairmount's vaccine clinics:

- January 25, 2022, in the Chapel from 2pm to 2:30pm
- February 22, 2022, in the Chapel from 2pm to 2:30pm

Please call the receptionist at 717.354.1800 to schedule a vaccine or booster.

In addition, WellSpan Ephrata Community Hospital is offering COVID vaccination clinics. Please call 1.855.851.3641 to schedule a vaccine.

VISITATION INFORMATION

When visiting loved ones at Fairmount, we remind you of our **Core Principles of COVID-19 Infection Prevention:**

- Visitors who have a positive viral test for COVID-19, symptoms of COVID-19, or currently meet the criteria for quarantine, should not visit or enter the building.
- Upon entry, screen at the kiosk for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and for a temperature check, even if you are only going into the café.
- Hand hygiene is essential. Use alcohol-based hand rub or wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds. Alcohol-based hand rub is available at the entrance and in the hallways.
- Face covering or mask (covering mouth and nose) must be on at all times.
- Physical distance at least six feet between persons.