

Cleveland, Thursday, December 30th, 2021

RE: EIGHTY-FIRST WALES COVID-19 UPDATE

Dear Residents, Employees and Family Members,

It is certainly well publicized that the COVID virus is currently sweeping through our area. The number of local cases is far higher than at any other point in the pandemic.

I regret to inform that we learned this evening that three asymptomatic residents living on Central tested positive for COVID-19. Effective this evening, Central is considered a hot zone and residents should remain in their room to the best of our ability including during mealtimes. Bathing in the whirlpool room is suspended until further notice; personal hygiene is to be given in the resident's bedroom. All garbage and laundry must be double bagged, and personal clothing sent to the laundry should be minimized. Employees must wear full personal protection including N-95 mask, visor, nitrile gloves, gown, and booties. After providing care/services to a resident who is positive for Covid-19, all personal protective equipment must be disposed of, and clean equipment applied once you have left the bedroom. After providing care to a resident who is not positive, the same measures above apply, except the visor can be disinfected. Employees must dispose of all personal protective equipment at the end of their shift. Employees will remain on the unit for the entire shift; individual breaks are to be taken in the back room of the nursing station with the door closed and disinfected between use. Employees will be provided with meals, as no personal items are to be brought on the unit. Employees will enter and leave the unit using the central door. At the end of the shift, employees go directly to their locker and immediately leave the building. The CIUSSS will be onsite tomorrow to process N-95 fit tests for the employees working on the unit. Residents and employees will be re-tested for COVID-19 on January 2nd or 3rd 2022. Although each resident living on Central is allowed one primary caregiver per day, I would not recommend visiting the unit at this time unless for humanitarian reasons.

Although we have not received all the resident and employee Covid-19 results, this afternoon Public Health lifted the preventive isolation measures on Norton 1, Manning/Shaw 1 & 2 (except for two residents from the RPA as they were in contact with an employee who tested positive for Covid-19).

Public Health has maintained Norton 2 & 3 and the two residents from the RPA under preventive isolation until residents and employees receive a third negative result. The CIUSSS will process the mass testing the same day as the re-testing of Central. A total of 77 residents and 17 employees are scheduled to be re-tested. Employees to be tested, will be notified.

We will continue to provide you with regular updates and will promptly notify you of any changes. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns (my coordinates are listed below). You can also visit our website for updates at www.waleshome.ca/all-the-news.

Regards,



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