

Cleveland, Wednesday, January 12th, 2022

RE: NINETY-SECOND WALES COVID-19 UPDATE

Dear Residents, Employees and Family Members,

This morning we had a meeting with Public Health regarding the current situation at the Wales as two more employees have tested positive for Covid-19. Since January 7th, eight employees have tested positive resulting in Norton 1 being put on preventive isolation once again.

Types of isolations and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to be applied:

Below is a table indicating the level of isolations and what Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) must be worn when visiting. Any resident showing symptoms of Covid-19 is considered as a potential positive case and put under full isolation including door closed until symptoms have subsided. Any resident who tests positive for Covid-19 will remain quarantined in room with door closed until the end of the isolation period which normally takes place on the 10th day of isolation at midnight. Before the isolation can be fully lifted, the room must be disinfected on the 11th day for it to be considered a *cold zone*. Prior to lifting the isolation, the resident must:

- Have no fever for 48 hours (without taking medication such as Tylenol)
- Symptoms must have improved over the last 24 hours (excluding cough and loss of smell and taste which may last longer)

UNIT	TYPE OF ISOLATION	PPE
Manning/Shaw 1	Preventive isolation	●Yellow
Shaw 1 (1 resident positive)	Room is considered a HOT ZONE – door closed	●●Red
Manning/Shaw 2	Preventive isolation	●Yellow
Manning/Shaw 2: (6 residents positive)	Rooms are considered HOT ZONE – door closed	●●Red
Central	Entire unit considered a HOT ZONE	●●Red
Norton 1	Preventive isolation	●Yellow
Norton 2	Preventive isolation	●Yellow
Norton 3	Preventive isolation	●Yellow
Norton 3 (4 residents showing symptoms)	Rooms are considered HOT ZONE – door closed	●●Red

●**Yellow:** Visor, blue mask, yellow gown, nitril gloves

●●**Red:** Visor, N95 mask, blue gown, nitril gloves and booties

Visitors must always maintain 2-metre distance from resident (visits in bedroom only)

Note: we ask that all visitors wear booties upon entry at door number one to keep floors clean and safe, thank you for your cooperation.

Mass screening scheduled tomorrow:

Another mass testing is scheduled for Thursday, January 13th (Manning/Shaw 1 & 2 and Norton 1, 2 & 3). When a mass testing is scheduled, it involves two screenings: the first testing is scheduled on Day 3 of the first positive case of a resident or employee, and the second testing is scheduled on Day 8. Employees have already received an email or phone call to inform them of the scheduled screenings. Any employee unable to be onsite tomorrow, will have to go to a screening center within 48 hours to be tested. Employees do not need to make an appointment; simply present your ID card or employee curfew letter as proof that you are a healthcare professional. All employees must inform Chantal Richer of their results either via email or leave her a message on her voice mail at extension 274. The second mass screening is scheduled for Tuesday, January 18th. Any resident or employee who tests positive tomorrow will not be retested on January 18th.

Possible lifting of quarantine on Central:

If the current two residents on the unit who are negative for Covid-19 do not show any symptoms before January 13th at midnight, the isolation measures will be lifted on January 14th!!! Prior to reopening the unit, a complete disinfection will be processed. A specialized team is already scheduled and prepared to be onsite at 8:30 AM on Friday, January 14th. The two residents who tested negative on January 8th will have their symptoms monitored until January 17th.

New regulations for any resident under preventive isolation:

All residents who are currently on preventive isolation (negative for Covid-19 /have no symptoms) are permitted to walk outside or in the hallway of their unit while under supervision to ensure they are distancing 2-metres from others. Residents must wear a mask when walking inside, and not touch anything e.g., the tables set up with PPE. If walking groups are formed, it creates a bubble which must be maintained until the end of the isolation period. High touch surfaces must be disinfected after residents have finished their walk.

We understand that it is extremely emotional receiving this information. We also understand how difficult it is visiting your loved ones while wearing personal protective equipment and distancing 2-metres. The safety of our residents and employees continues to guide all our efforts. We thank you again for your continued patience and unwavering support throughout this pandemic and trusting the Wales Home to care for your loved one.

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: www.waleshome.ca/all-the-news.

Regards,



Brendalee Piironen

Executive Director

bpironen@waleshome.ca

819-826-3266 extension 247

cell: (819) 570-5587