



# Preakness Healthcare Center

## A Legacy of Caring since 1929

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Update, November 29, 2021

*Please Note: This Update is posted on the Passaic County website and distributed through the Constant Contact email group for families who have elected to provide their email address and is distributed to all staff. Our Social Workers and Therapeutic Recreation staff distribute the Update to residents who wish to receive it.*

During the testing of unvaccinated staff today with antigen tests, one positive result was received for an Environmental Services staff who worked on resident unit 2-400. This unit includes unvaccinated residents on the observation section of the unit, residents with tracheostomies and residents who are ventilator-dependent. A confirmatory PCR test was done and the result is pending. All residents on the 2-400 unit were tested with either an antigen or PCR test. PCR results are pending.

As a reminder, the NJ Department of Health Executive Directive No. 21-012-1 that was issued on November 24, 2021 references the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Memorandum QSO-20-39 of new guidance for visitation during the public health emergency. It includes screening requirements/screening standards for all who enter a nursing facility. Attached please find our Visitation Policy that is updated in accordance with the CMS Memorandum and the NJ DOH Directive, as well as the required Visitor Screening Questionnaire. The policy was inadvertently not included on the constant contact email previous to this Update. Dr. Geoffrey Mugalu, LNHA, Assistant Executive Director, Tina Hucalla, Infection Preventionist or I am available to answer any questions.

The next on-site COVID-19 Vaccination clinic is Wednesday, December 1, 2021. Vaccinations are available for residents and staff for first, second or booster doses. Residents and/or their designated representatives who have provided written consent or verbal consent that is witnessed by two nursing management staff will receive the vaccines. Vaccination questions or messages may be left on the phone number dedicated to COVID-19 vaccination: 973-585-2100 or may be directed to Tina Hucalla, Infection Preventionist (973-585-2181).

On December 1, 2021, the electrical transformers on resident units 1-400 and 3-400 will be replaced with energy-efficient transformers. The work will begin at approximately 7:30 am on resident unit 1-400 followed by resident unit 3-400. It is anticipated that the work will be completed in each area within three hours with minimal disruption. Resident equipment such as beds, concentrators, feeding pumps will be plugged into the red electrical emergency outlets before the work begins. Resident TVs will not be operational. Present on the units during the work will be our Facilities Director, Safety Coordinator and a Nursing Supervisor to address any issues.

We began decorating for the holiday season today. If you plan to decorate a resident's room, please review the safety requirements prepared by Frank Irizarry, Coordinator of Safety. The requirements are available at the main entrance desk or you may call Mr. Irizarry at 973-585-2117 with any questions.

If you have an urgent call or complaint, please call Preakness Healthcare Center Security staff at 973-

317-7023 and your call will be directed to the appropriate person. In addition, Dr. Geoffrey Mugalu, LNHA, Assistant Executive Director may be reached at 973-585-2113 or Daniel Nasulme, RN, BSN, Director of Nursing may be reached at 973-585-1409 to address any concerns.

Happy Hanukkah to our residents, families and staff who are celebrating Hanukkah.

As always, many thanks for the work of our staff, their sacrifices and the continued support we receive during these challenging and emotional times. And, special thanks for the understanding from our residents and their families as the regulatory directives and protocols for COVID continue to evolve.  
***Preakness Strong Heroes Continue to Work Here!***

Sincerely,

Lucinda Corrado, LNHA  
Executive Director