



06/02/2021

Dear Family & Friends,

DHHS has been relaxing the requirements for visitation and outings for Assisted Living tenants. Assisted Livings must determine if and how they are able to safely accommodate these changes. As always, our primary concern is to prevent the COVID virus from entering Cedarwood and to promote the health and safety of *all* of tenants that reside here.

The most recent changes in regulation now allow Assisted Livings to support unmasked visits for tenants who choose to have them but **only if the tenant is fully vaccinated, all visitors are fully vaccinated**, and the assisted living & county meets the other requirements as listed by CMS/CDC.

To accommodate the new relaxation on visitation, we will be asking the vaccination status of all visitors upon screening at Cedarwood. If all visitors scheduled for that specific visit are fully vaccinated (2 weeks past their final vaccination required for their series), we will allow visitors and tenant to visit without masks. Staff will ask for confirmation of your vaccination status. Staff will not retain copies of vaccination status so you will be asked this at every visit if you wish to visit without masks. If you have chosen to not receive the vaccine, do not have documentation of your vaccination status, or some visitors in the group are not fully vaccinated, you may still visit with appropriate use of masks and distancing as before. Staff will monitor visits with unvaccinated individuals closely to assure masks are consistently worn properly.

With the additional screening upon entry, we have changed the visitation schedule to allow staff the additional time to confirm vaccination status. There can be up to 4 visitors per tenant for each scheduled time and they can visit for one hour. Visits can be scheduled between the hours of 9:00-11:30 and 1:00-4:00 and one visit time available 6:30-7:30 pm Monday through Fridays. Weekends the visitation times are 10:00-11:00 and 2:30-3:30. All visits must be scheduled at least 24 hours in advance.

Guidelines for unmasked visits are as follows:

UNMASKED VISITS:

- **ALL visitors in attendance MUST be fully vaccinated**, if one visitor is not fully vaccinated masks must be worn by ALL visitors and tenant.
- **ALL visitors must show verification of vaccination status EACH time they visit.** We will not keep copies of your vaccination card so be prepared to show your card each time. We will accept the original card, a photocopy of your card or a photo of your card saved on your phone.
- **Visitors must wear a well-fitted mask to and from the visitation location**, but the visitor and tenant may remove their mask once they are in the visitation area and re-mask when ready to leave.
- Outdoor visits are preferred when weather permits.
- Visitors must remain in the designated visitation space, and staff will guide visitors out, when it is time to leave.
- Visitors must maintain 6-foot distancing from all other tenants & staff

Additionally, CMS has provided guidance for tenants to go out of the facility with family & friends. There may be additional precautions that need to be taken upon the tenant's return to Cedarwood depending upon the level of risk for exposure to unvaccinated individuals and individuals who have COVID-19.

Our team needs to have time to review the details of each outing individually, to determine the risk associated and determine an appropriate plan upon return. For this reason family members who are interested in taking their tenant out of the facility must call and visit with the Administrator, Director of Resident Services at least 48 hours prior to the

outing, Monday through Thursday between the hours of 9:00am-4:00pm only. Requests cannot be taken Friday through Sunday or on evenings, by care staff.

Once the team is able to determine the risk level associated with the outing a decision will be made regarding appropriate precautions to be taken upon return. If an outing is low risk, no precautions will be required, for moderate risk the tenant will need to be tested for COVID-19 (nasal swab) twice weekly for 14 days, for high risk the tenant will be required to quarantine for 14 days. The results of the assessment will be discussed and the tenant and/or responsible party must sign the assessment prior to the outing.

We have enclosed the Outing Risk Assessment for Fully Vaccinate Tenant, Outing Risk Guidelines and the Outing Educational handout for you. These are only guidelines and the risk level for each outing will be determined based upon the risk factors involved for that specific outing. If you have any questions or are interested in scheduling an outing please contact the following staff at their direct office number:

Becky Bruce @ 402-729-6883 or,

Deb Sutton @ 402-729-6843

If your loved one calls and asks you to take them out of Cedarwood, please call Kim Oliver at the main number or Becky or myself to make certain the proper assessment and paper work has been completed in advance of you coming. We are also putting this information on our Cedarwood website Cedarwoodal.org, if you miss place this letter and want to refer back to it or if there are other family members or friends who need this information. As usual, if you have any questions about this new guidance, please feel free to contact me at 402-729-6843 or email deb.sutton@jchealthandlife.org

Deb Sutton RN BS NHA

Administrator, Jefferson Community Health & Life-Cedarwood