

January 7, 2022

Dear Patients, Responsible Parties, Family Members, and Staff,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones safe and healthy. Please note that Ark Healthcare and Rehabilitation at St Camillus is currently experiencing a Covid-19 outbreak. All positive patients and staff members are currently isolating in accordance with CDC guidelines. **The current outbreak total positive staff members and patients (dating back to 12/3/21) is 10 staff members and 6 patients.**

Our website, [www.arkstcamillus.com](http://www.arkstcamillus.com) will be updated as necessary to reflect our current outbreak numbers and additional information. Click on “view letter here”.



**Urgent Message Concerning COVID-19**

**URGENT MESSAGE - CURRENT UPDATE:**  
[VIEW LETTER HERE.](#)  
 Update on limited visitation allowance:  
 Please see the [Visitation Fact Sheet](#) before coming.  
[Click here to schedule an appointment](#)

FDA Covid-19 Vaccine      We Follow all CDC Guidelines

As per CDC, CMS, and DPH guidance, we have started testing our patients and staff through a point prevalence survey (PPS) and will continue to do so until we surpass fourteen days with no new positive cases amongst patients or staff. All staff must see the supervisor to be tested for Covid-19 on a weekly basis until the facility surpasses 14 days with no new positive cases. Per guidance, unvaccinated staff (who do not have 2 doses of Pfizer or Moderna or 1 full dose of Johnson and Johnson) must **routinely** test on a weekly basis depending on the county positivity rate for the past week. The current positivity rate for Fairfield County, CT is ranging in the 20 percent area at the time this letter was written. Therefore, unvaccinated staff would test 2 times for every 7 day period.

**Table 2: Routine Testing Intervals Vary by Community COVID-19 Activity Level**

Community COVID-19 Activity	County Positivity Rate in the past week	Minimum Testing Frequency of Unvaccinated Staff
Low	<5%	Once a month
Medium	5% - 10%	Once a week*
High	>10%	Twice a week*

\*Vaccinated staff do not need be routinely tested.

As per QSO 20-39- NH released by CMS on 11/12/2021, visitation is not affected, though we are available to educate and inform all visitors of Covid-19 infection prevention and facility policy and procedures.

Group recreation, dining, as well as religious services and gatherings are postponed until further notice. While postponement is not an easy decision that we are implementing, it allows the facility to monitor and mitigate additional opportunities for transmission amongst our staff and patients throughout the building in relation to our current positive members of our community. We will alert all of our patients and staff when these gatherings will resume.

Vaccinations, vaccine boosters, mask wearing, social distancing and hand hygiene are areas of emphasis and amongst the principles of infection control that we continue to educate and maintain here at the facility. We must continue, to the best of our ability, to remind and make PPE such as masks available to our patients. Staff, vendors, visitors and patients are expected to utilize source control masks, such as surgical, KN95, or N95 Masks. N95 masks are available to staff and patients alike.

We continue to remain in close contact with the government entities listed above as well state epidemiology consultants. For our staff, visitors, patients and consultants: should you develop signs and symptoms of Covid-19 *and* receive a positive test in the days following a visit, please notify the facility or your caregivers immediately to enable appropriate contact tracing.

We look forward to greeting you at our facility and maintaining a safe and welcoming environment for our patients, staff, and families.

Warmest Regards,

Reuven Fischer, LNHA  
*Administrator of Ark Healthcare  
and Rehabilitation At Saint Camillus*