

February 24, 2023

Dear Residents, Families, and Friends:

We want to inform you that at Birchwood Rehab and Nursing, we have identified 1 confirmed cases of COVID-19 among residents. The safety of our residents and staff is our top priority. To our residents, if you are diagnosed with COVID-19, we will notify you directly and contact loved ones or a representative with whom you have given us permission to communicate. To reduce the spread and impact of COVID-19, we continue to follow guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). We are staying in close communication with local and state health officials to ensure we are taking the appropriate steps under the current circumstances, including:

- Enhanced infection control precautions, such as wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) when we care for residents, increasing the availability of hand sanitizer, and more frequent cleaning and disinfecting of high-touch surfaces. Residents may also be moved in the facility to prevent the spread of the virus causing COVID-19.
- Screening residents and staff for COVID-19 symptoms, as well as anyone else who must enter our facility.
- Testing staff and residents who are not up to date and in the area of the positive cases for COVID-19.
- Providing and requiring facemasks for all staff to wear.
- Providing facemasks for residents, if tolerated and following CDC guidance:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/long-term-care.html>
- Requiring all others entering the facility to wear facemasks to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

We encourage you to review the CDC website for information about COVID-19, including its symptoms, how it spreads, and actions you can take to protect your health:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

All of us at Cranford Rehab and Nursing understand that this is a serious situation and might be frightening. We will continue to provide you with regular updates about the situation and will promptly notify you if we identify any additional residents or staff with confirmed COVID-19.

We encourage you to contact us with questions and concerns. Please call us at 908-272-6660, email us at [dehall@birchwoodrhc.com](mailto:dehall@birchwoodrhc.com).

The safety of our residents and staff is our top priority.

Sincerely,

Deb Hall, LNHA