

Measures to Prevent COVID- 19

1. Restrict visitation of all visitors and non-essential health care personnel, except for certain compassionate care situations, such as an end-of-life situation. In those cases, visitors will be limited to a specific room only.
2. For individuals that enter in compassionate situations (e.g., end-of-life care), facilities should require visitors to perform hand hygiene and use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), such as facemasks. Decisions about visitation during an end of life situation should be made on a case by case basis, which should include careful screening of the visitor (including clergy, bereavement counselors, etc.) for fever or respiratory symptoms. Those with symptoms of a respiratory infection (fever, cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat) should not be permitted to enter the facility at any time (even in end-of-life situations). Those visitors that are permitted, must wear a facemask while in the building and restrict their visit to the resident's room or other location designated by the facility. They should also be reminded to frequently perform hand hygiene.
3. Temperature screening every person that enters the building, including employees and residents for fever and respiratory symptoms.
4. Shoe sanitization screening takes place at the entrance of the front lobby door.
5. Anyone with signs or symptoms of infection is turned away (e.g., cough, fever, sore throat, shortness of breath).
6. Sick employees are required to stay home and notify Mary Health of the Sick if feeling sick during their shift.
7. All employees practice hand hygiene (wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds).
8. All nursing employees use Personal Protective Equipment (i.e., surgical masks and/or N95, gloves and gowns) when providing direct patient care.
9. Limited surface touching.
10. Perform routine environmental cleaning. Routinely clean all frequently touched surfaces in the workplace, such as workstations, countertops, and doorknobs. Use the cleaning agents that are usually used in these areas and follow the directions on the label. No special cleaning is necessary for COVID-19.
11. Hand sanitizer available outside hallways.
12. CNA assignments are designated to work in select areas of the building only.
13. Social distancing concepts are enacted among residents and patients.
14. Social distancing concepts are enacted among employees, including separate areas to take breaks/meal breaks.
15. A Respiratory Observation Unit is in place and isolation protocols are followed in this area.
16. A detailed plan for a quarantine unit is in place, but at this time it has not been necessary to utilize.
17. To prevent cross-contamination, no employees are to work in another facility.
18. To protect our residents and staff, recommended by health agencies, we are highly discouraging families from bringing non-essential items such as flowers, personal stationary and room accessories. Bringing food is also discouraged unless the resident is making a special request and/or if the resident is losing weight— then food, including ethnic meals are allowed. Also allowed for new patient admissions are personal items that bring comfort and/or enhance quality of life. For all patients, over-the-counter medications are accepted. Families may call to let us know items will be delivered to the front door or items can be mailed. We ask families to keep in mind our nurses and staff are focused on resident care and the prevention of COVID-19. When items are brought to Mary Health our staffing resources are impacted as all packages must be sanitized.