

**L&P UPDATED COVID-19 GUIDANCE  
EFFECTIVE JULY 2, 2021**

**WHAT IS CHANGING OR NEW**

**Visitation**

1. Visits no longer need to be scheduled in advance and no longer require a time limit.
2. **Families must sign in and out via the accushield device.**
  - a. We need all visitors to sign in and out via the accushield device for two reasons:
    1. To know who is in the building during an emergency.
    2. To have an accurate log of the times they visited in case we need to conduct visitor contact tracing.
3. Paper screening is not permitted unless the accushield device is not functioning.

**Resident Testing, Quarantine, and Vaccination**

1. New admissions are not required to have a negative COVID-19 test to be admitted.
2. New admissions/readmissions within 90 days of a PCR confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection do not need to be quarantined.
3. Quarantined Resident may be able to safely participate in outdoor visitation if the visit can be help without close contact with other resident and staff, the quarantined individual can directly access the outdoors, i.e., room right across from a facility entrance. **VVH does not currently have the ability to do this but will allow window visits.**

**WHAT IS NOT CHANGING**

**Visitation**

1. Screening and facial covering requirement for all visitors
2. Visitors will continue to use neighborhood entrances for visits.
3. Compliance with the current CDC Travel Guidance prior to any visit, see following website for more information [Travel | CDC](#)
4. Maintaining the Core Principles of Infection Control, see page 2 of the attached guidance.
5. Limiting visitor movement within the facility continue with resident room and visiting area locations for visits, not allowed in dining rooms or other communal areas in the building.
6. Cannot require testing or proof for vaccination as a condition of visiting.
7. Outdoor visits should be held whenever possible, but they are not required.
8. Visitors must maintain physical distancing from staff, other visitors, and residents.
9. Staff can end visits if a visitor demonstrates and unwillingness or inability to follow the Core Principals of Infection Control or does not comply with screening process.
10. Compassionate care visits are always allowed, even if we are in outbreak status.
11. Physical touch between vaccinated visitor and vaccinated resident is allowed.
12. Visitation during an outbreak
  - a. When initial case is found (resident or staff case) **All** indoor visit, except compassionate care visits, are suspended regardless of location of positive case until initial staff and resident testing is completed.
  - b. Based on results of testing visits **may be resumed** on other neighborhoods based on the CMS guidance **and** consultation with the Vermont Department of Health (VDH).

### **Communal Activities and Dining**

1. Are to continue unit based for those not on quarantine and following CDC requirements found at this link: [Updated Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations in Response to COVID-19 Vaccination | CDC](#)

### **Staff Testing and PPE Use**

1. Following Core Principles of Infection Control.
2. Weekly Staff PCR Testing.
3. VVH will continue to use most recent CDC and/or VDH guidance on when an employee can return to work. [Return-to-Work Criteria for Healthcare Workers | CDC](#)
4. PPE requirements are unchanged. [Using Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\) | CDC](#)
5. All cleaning and disinfection procedures remain in place.

### **Resident COVID Testing, Vaccination and Quarantine Requirement**

1. Test symptomatic residents
2. Whenever possible isolate/quarantine until test results are obtained.
3. Positive COVID test results require quarantine, see section under changes for new guidance.
  - a. Cannot participate in group activities or communal dining.
  - b. Compassionate care visits allowed.
4. Full vaccinated admissions/readmission do not need to be quarantined unless they are COVID-19 positive at time of admissions/readmission.
5. New admissions/readmissions cannot be required to be vaccinated to be admitted/readmitted.
6. Fully vaccinated resident with a close contact exposure can test out of quarantine on or after day 7.
7. Window visits are allowed for those in quarantine.

### **Trips/LOA**

1. Non-medical Trips are permitted for all residents, not in quarantine. regardless of vaccination status.
2. Medical Trips for current COVID-19 positive are to be preapproved by attending physician. If they are approved to go to a medical appointment, physician office for the appointment and any transport service must be notified **prior** to the appointment of the resident's positive status. Resident must wear a facial covering at all times when out of the room/facility for this appointment.
3. Fully vaccinated do not need to quarantine upon return to the facility unless they have had a known exposure.
4. Unvaccinated Residents may be quarantined based on the location and length of their trip/LOA.
  - a. An individual who goes out for a car ride but has not contact with the public would not need to be quarantined.
  - b. A trip/LOA that results in participating in large crowds or groups should be reviewed by the Attending or on call physician to determine the need to quarantine.
5. Resident/Family education on risks of LOA must be provided to all going on LOA but especially for the unvaccinated.