

Your Life, Our Passion

December 23, 2021

Dear Alavida Resident, Family & Staff

It is with heavy hearts that we must report that due to the increased cases in Ontario in the wake of the new Omicron variant of Covid-19, we have been given new guidelines on how to keep our communities safe. We know this is hard news for everyone to hear, especially during the holiday season. We appreciate the hard work of our associates, residents, and family members in continuing to keep our Alavida communities safe and thriving.

With this said, we wanted to clarify some of the new guidelines that we have been given by the Retirement Homes Regulatory Authority (RHRA) this week:

Enhanced Screening Protocol:

Essential Caregivers:

- We now require rapid antigen testing for staff, volunteers, students, community care staff, contractors, and essential caregivers, regardless of vaccination status.
- Each resident will be allocated a maximum of two (2) essential caregivers.
- These caregivers will be required to complete the rapid antigen testing twice per week and report results to the home.
- The rapid antigen tests will be given to essential caregivers for self-administration on a weekly basis.
- At this time, our homes are providing rapid antigen tests for essential caregivers. This is subject to availability from Public Health.











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• If an essential caregiver visits less than twice per week, they will need to test before each visit (rather than twice per week).

General Visitors:

- We now require rapid antigen testing for general visitors prior to entering a retirement home, regardless of vaccination status.
- General visitors will be required to provide a negative rapid antigen test prior to visiting the home.
- General visitors are responsible for acquiring their own rapid antigen test prior to entering the home. We will not be providing the rapid antigen tests for general visitors at this time.
- Visiting hours be restricted to 7am 7pm on a daily basis, so our associates can properly manage screening and safety requirements. We appreciate your understanding in this.
- Please note that children over twelve (12) who are fully vaccinated may come in the homes to visit, with proof of vaccination and a negative rapid antigen test upon arrival.
- Children under 12 years of age are not permitted to enter our homes at this time, regardless of vaccination status.

Resident Absences:

- All residents who go on a temporary overnight absence are now required to abide by our new policy:
- All residents, regardless of vaccination status, require a negative lab-based PCR test upon return to the home and isolate for 7 days.
- The resident must isolate on Droplet precautions until a negative test result from Day 7 is confirmed.
- Short term (day) absence. (12 hours or less) If the resident has been exposed to a known COVID-19 case during their absence, they must be tested for COVID-19 with a PCR test on return to the home and quarantined. A second negative COVID-19 PCR test result collected on Day 7 is required to discontinue quarantine on Droplet and Contact Precautions. If no exposure then residents may simply return home.











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Please note that these guidelines are subject to change based on changing Public Health measures.

Thank you for your understanding in this situation. We so appreciate the perseverance of our residents, families, friends, and associates. If you have any questions, concerns, or would like clarification on any of these new guidelines, please don't hesitate to reach out to the General Manager at your home. We wish you a safe and happy holiday season.

Sincere Regards,

The Alavida Team







