



Outbreak Response Plan

Revised March 1, 2022

PURPOSE

To provide guidance to the employees/contracted staff of Leisure Chateau as well as our patients/residents and their families on how to prepare for new and/or newly evolved/evolving infectious diseases whose incidence in humans has increased, or threatens to increase, in the near future and that has the potential to pose a significant public health threat and danger of infection to the patients/residents, employees/contracted staff and families of Leisure Chateau. Our Outbreak Plan complies with the guideline monitoring and compliance set forth by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), New Jersey Department of Health and Communicable Diseases, New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH), and Ocean County Health Department and is continually evolving based on current guidelines and further understanding of COVID-19 and its variants for which our clinical leadership closely monitors and keeps administrative leadership abreast of changes or potential risks of new infections in their geographic area. Our goal remains to protect our patients/residents, employees/contracted staff and families from harm resulting from exposure to any emergent infectious disease(s) (EIDs), i.e., COVID-19/Influenza, which may/has occurred in our community/facility.

Leisure Chateau's Outbreak Plan includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Infection Control and Prevention
- b. Control Measures
- c. Screening/Testing
- d. Suspected Case
- e. Staffing
- f. Resident's Quality of Life
- g. Transparency through communication
- h. Education
- i. Vaccination Program
- j. Reporting Requirements
- k. Knowledge Acquired and Lessons Learned
- l. Influenza Program

Infection Control and Prevention

Continuing to take precautions to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 remains vitally important. In addition, individuals can spread COVID-19, including new variants, even if they are vaccinated and up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations. Having a strong IPC program and staff adherence is critical to protect both residents and health care personnel (HCP).

Employer Considerations

Leisure Chateau will consider its requirements under OSHA, CMS, state licensure, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), American Disabilities Act (ADA) and other state or federal laws in determining the precautions it will take to protect its patients/residents, employees, and contracted staff. Protecting the patients/residents, employees and contracted staff shall be of paramount concern. Management shall take into account the likelihood of the infectious disease being transmitted to the patients/residents and employees/contracted staff, the method of spread of the disease and the precautions which can be taken to prevent the spread of the infectious disease. Once these factors are considered, management will weigh its options and determine the extent to which exposed employees/contracted staff, or those who are showing signs of the infectious disease, must be precluded from contact with patients/residents or other employees. Reasonable accommodations for employees would be considered such as permitting employees to work from home if their job description permits this. Employees will be able to use sick leave, vacation time, and FMLA where appropriate while they are out of work. Employees/contracted staff who refuse at any time to take the precautions may be subject to discipline.

Control Measures

Leisure Chateau will take measures for protecting their patients/residents, employees/contracted staff, and families. Control measures have been instituted in an attempt to reduce and/or eliminate spread from exposure to any emergent infectious disease(s) (EIDs), i.e., COVID-19/Influenza. Some measures include, but are not limited to, universal masking- well-fitting surgical masks and/or NIOSH approved N95, and PPE including disposable gowns, face shield/goggles, gloves, social distancing, hand hygiene, isolating ill patients/residents by cohorting patients/residents utilizing transmission-based precautions and utilizing environmental/ housekeeping and engineering infection control protocols.

Transmission Based Precautions

Transmission based precautions are followed based upon the mode of transmission of the infectious organism. Employee/contracted staff have received education regarding modes of transmission e.g., standard, contact, droplet, and airborne precautions. The type of precautions will affect isolation requirements, visitation, and/or equipment use. These precautions will be communicated to patients/residents, appropriate, employees/contracted staff and family through a variety of alerts including signage on facility entrance doors and patient/resident rooms as required by CDC and federal and state regulations.

Environmental Infection Control Protocol

Leisure Chateau will follow current CDC guidelines for environmental cleaning specific to the EID in addition to routine cleaning for the duration of the threat including, but not limited to, more frequent cleaning of high touch areas.

Engineering Controls Protocol

Leisure Chateau will utilize appropriate physical plant alterations such as use of private rooms for high-risk patients/residents, plastic barriers, sanitation stations, and special areas for contaminated wastes as recommended by local, state, and federal public health authorities.

Supply Inventory Protocol

As part of the emergency operations plan, Leisure Chateau will maintain a supply of PPE including moisture-barrier gowns, face shields/goggles, surgical masks, assorted sizes of disposable N95 respirators, and gloves. The amount that is stockpiled will minimally be enough for several days of center-wide care but will be

determined based on storage space and costs. Leisure Chateau will develop plans with their vendors for re-supply of food, medications, sanitizing agents and PPE in the event of a disruption to normal business including an EID outbreak.

Signage Protocol

Leisure Chateau posts signs regarding hand sanitation and respiratory etiquette and/or other prevention strategies relevant to the route of infection at the entry of Leisure Chateau along with the instruction that anyone who are sick must not enter our building.

Screening/Testing Requirements

Leisure Chateau will log and screen everyone (except for EMS personnel) entering our facility per regardless of their vaccination status. We will advise everyone entering our facility to monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 for at least 14 days after exiting our facility, and if symptoms occur, to self-isolate at home, contact their healthcare provider, and immediately notify our facility of the date they were in the facility, the individual(s) with whom they were in contact, and the locations within the facility they visited. Leisure Chateau shall immediately screen the individuals who are a reported contact, and implement necessary actions based on findings.

Leisure Chateau will inform visitors of the possible dangers of exposure to COVID-19 for both the resident and the visitor, and that they will follow the visitation rules set by the facility. Visitors must strictly comply with our facility policies during visitation. We have established a designated area for visitors to log in and be screened upon entry. The screening process for visitors is to consist of the completion of a kiosk questionnaire about symptoms and potential exposure which shall include at a minimum whether, a) in the last 14 days, the visitor has had an identified exposure to someone with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19, someone under investigation for COVID-19, or someone with respiratory symptoms, b) the visitor has been diagnosed with COVID-19 and has not yet met criteria for the discontinuation of isolation per guidance issued by NJDOH and CDC, and c) the visitor is experiencing and signs and symptoms of illness. We will prohibit entry into our building for those who meet one or more of the following criteria, regardless of vaccination status if they a) have current SARS-CoV-2 infection; b) have symptoms of COVID-19; c) have had close contact with someone with SARS-CoV-2 infection in the prior 14 days or have otherwise met criteria for quarantine or d) tests positive antigen or PCR. Visitors who have a positive viral test for COVID19, symptoms of COVID19, or currently meet the criteria for quarantine should not enter the facility until they meet that criteria used for residents to discontinue transmission based precautions. Leisure Chateau screens all who enter for these visitation exclusions.

Testing

Leisure Chateau, being a CMS-certified facility, is covered by CMS rules and guidance and follows QSO-20-38-NH and CMS-415- IFC and will conduct testing adhering to the more frequent standard (e.g., if NJ's CALI score). We shall adhere to the more frequent standard (e.g., if NJ's CALI score indicates twice weekly and CDC's county level of community transmission indicates once weekly; we shall test twice weekly). We will perform COVID-19 testing by either on-site POC antigen testing and/or contract with outside laboratories for PCR testing

When a "Testing Trigger," is identified, Leisure Chateau will perform testing immediately (but not earlier than 24 hours after the exposure, if known) and, if negative, again 5-7 days later. Although exceptions will exist, generally staff and residents who have recovered from COVID- 19 and are asymptomatic do not need to be

retested for COVID-19 within 90 days after symptom onset or date of positive viral test if asymptomatic. Until more is known, testing should be encouraged again (e.g., in response to exposure) 3 months after the date of symptom onset with the prior infection. Patients/Residents who have experienced close contact with someone with SARS-CoV-2 infection, who have not tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 in the past 90 days, regardless of vaccination status, submit to a series of two viral tests for SARS-CoV-2 infection. Patients/Residents who have recovered from COVID-19 can continue to have detectable SARS-CoV-2 RNA in upper respiratory specimens for up to 90 days after illness onset but remain non-infectious. All newly admitted residents, and residents who have left the facility for greater than 24 hours, regardless of vaccination status, should have a series of 2 viral tests for SARS-CoV-2 infection, initially upon admission and if negative, again 5-7 days after admission.

Leisure Chateau may elect to perform routine testing of staff beyond the minimum outlined within Executive Directive No. 21-012; antigen testing may be used as an alternative to molecular diagnostic PCR tests. Antigen testing may be used to fulfill any testing requirements and also may be used on asymptomatic individuals at our discretion. We will use only antigen tests that have received an Emergency Use Authorization or approval from the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) may be used to fulfill our screening/testing requirements. Consistent with QSO-20-39-NH, facilities in counties with substantial or high level of community transmission (CALI Scores) are encouraged to offer testing to visitors. Visitors are not required to be tested or vaccinated as condition of visitation. Leisure Chateau will monitor CALI scores weekly. We have the ability to perform COVID-19 point of care (POC) antigen tests and possess a federal Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendment (CUA) Certificate- CLIA ID Number: 31D06771475 with current Expiration Date: 8/31/22. Testing of close contacts during outbreaks is done 24 hours after symptom onset the COVID19 positive case or if no symptoms then 24 hours after date of positive test and again every 5-7 days if using PCR testing and every 3 days if using antigen testing over 14 days and/or per NJDOH guidance.

Laboratory Testing/Radiology Protocols

When infection or colonization with epidemiologically important organisms is suspected, cultures may be sent, if appropriate, to a contracted laboratory for identification or confirmation. Cultures will be further screened for sensitivity to antimicrobial medications to help determine treatment measures. Radiological testing may also be required that may include onsite x-rays. All findings will be discussed with the attending physician and reported as required to local, county and state public health agencies. Disease specific testing protocols are implemented to quickly identify all affected individuals, initiate infection control actions and implement treatments. Lab and radiology testing are disease specific and these decisions are guided by CDC and NJDOH directives. Designated legal responsible parties and representatives will be notified of individual testing results and findings documented in each individual patient's/resident's medical record.

Refusal of testing

If a patient/resident refuses to undergo testing, Leisure Chateau shall treat the patient/resident as a Person Under Investigation "PUI", make a notation in their chart, notify any authorized family members or legal representatives of this decision, and continue to monitor their vital signs and screen for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 every shift. Onset of temperature, or other symptoms consistent with COVID-19, require immediate cohorting in accordance with our cohorting plan. At any time, the patient/resident may rescind their decision not to be tested.

Suspected Case

Leisure Chateau will place a patient/resident who exhibits symptoms of the EID/COVID-19/Influenza in an isolation room. We will make every attempt, depending on staffing, to keep the number of staff assigned to enter the room of the isolated person to a minimum. Ideally, only specially trained employees/contracted staff and prepared (i.e. vaccinated, medically cleared and fit tested for respiratory protection) will enter the isolation room. All assigned staff is provided additional "just in time" training and supervision in the mode of

transmission of this EID, and the use of the appropriate PPE. If feasible, the isolated patient/resident may be asked to wear a facemask while employee/contracted staff is in the room. Management of infectious wastes, terminal cleaning of the isolation room, contact tracing of exposed individuals, and monitoring for additional cases, under the guidance of local health authorities keeping with guidance from the CDC will be conducted. While it is safer for visitors to practice remote visits, visitors must still be allowed to visit at discretion of resident or their representative. Visitors are made aware of the potential risk of visiting during transmission - based precautions and adhere to the core principles of infection prevention i.e.. of wearing well fitting face mask, frequent hand hygiene, distancing, limiting number of visitors. Visitors should promptly exit facility after the visit.

Cohorting

When testing capacity is available and facility spacing permits, patients/patients/residents should be organized into the following cohorts:

A) Cohort 1 – COVID-19 Positive: (i.e., COVID19 care unit/area)

This cohort consists of both symptomatic and asymptomatic patients/residents who test positive for COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status, including any new or re-admitted patients/residents known to be positive who have not met the criteria for discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions. If feasible, care for COVID-19 positive patients/residents on a separate closed unit. Patients/residents who test positive for COVID-19 are known to shed virus, regardless of symptoms; therefore, all positive patients/residents would be placed in this positive cohort.

B) Cohort 2 – Symptomatic residents with suspected SARS-CoV-2 infection

All symptomatic patients/residents in this cohort should be evaluated for causes of their symptoms. Patients/residents who test negative for COVID-19 could be incubating and later test positive. To the best of their ability, facilities should ideally having symptomatic residents housed in private rooms with private bathrooms while test results are pending. Even though symptomatic COVID-19 negative patients/residents might not be a threat to transmit COVID-19, they still may have another illness, such as influenza. In general, it is recommended that the door to the room remain closed to reduce transmission of SARS-CoV-2 or other pathogens. However, in some circumstances (e.g., memory impaired residents) , keeping door closed may pose safety risks and door might need to remain open. If door must remain open- implement strategies to minimize airflow into the hallway. If single rooms are limited or if numerous residents are simultaneously identified to have symptoms concerning for COVID-19, they should remain in their current location pending return of test results.

C) Cohort 3- Asymptomatic residents who are NOT up to date with all recommended COVID-19 vaccine doses, have a viral test that is negative for SARS-CoV-2, and have had close contact with someone with SARS-CoV-2. These residents should be placed in quarantine after their exposure and cared for using full PPE (gown, gloves, eye protection, NIOSH-approved N95 respirator). Testing is recommended immediately but not earlier than 24 hours after exposure and if negative, again 5-7 days after the exposure. Residents can be removed from quarantine, either:

1. After day 10 following exposure (day 0) if they do not develop symptoms. May consider testing for SARS-CoV-2 within 48 hours of planned discontinuation of quarantine

OR

2. After day 7 following exposure (day 0) if a viral test is negative for SARS-CoV-2 and they do not develop symptoms. The specimen should be collected and tested within 48 hours before the planned discontinuation of quarantine

D) Cohort 4 – Asymptomatic residents who ARE up to date with all recommended COVID-19 vaccine doses and have a viral test that is negative for SARS-CoV-2 OR had a viral test that was positive for SARS-CoV-2 in the past 90 days and have had close contact with someone with SARS-CoV-2. These residents should wear well fitting source control for 10 days after their exposure. Testing is recommended immediately (but not before 24 hours after exposure) and if negative, again 5-7 days after exposure. These residents do not need to be quarantined, restricted to their room or be cared for by HCP using full PPE UNLESS: they develop symptoms of COVID-19, are diagnosed with SARS-CoV-2 infection or the facility is directed by public health authority.

Quarantine might be considered if the resident is moderately to severely immunocompromised.

E) Cohort 5 - New or readmitted asymptomatic residents who are NOT up to date with all recommended COVID-19 vaccine doses and have a viral test negative for SARS-CoV-2 upon admission or readmission

These residents should be placed in quarantine and cared for using full PPE even if they have a negative test upon admission. Testing is recommended immediately upon admission and if negative, again 5-7 days after their admission. Quarantine may be discontinued after day 7 if a viral test is negative for SARS-CoV-2 and they do not develop symptoms. The specimen should be collected and tested within 48 hours before the time of planned discontinuation of quarantine.

In most circumstances quarantine is not recommended for residents who are not up to date with all recommended COVID-19 vaccine doses that routinely leave the facility for greater than 24 hours and do not have close contact with a suspected or known COVID-19 positive person.

F) Cohort 6- New or readmitted asymptomatic residents who ARE up to date with all recommended COVID-19 vaccines doses and have a viral test that is negative for SARS-CoV-2 OR had a viral test that positive for SARS-CoV-2 in the past 90 days. Testing is recommended immediately upon admission and if negative, again 5-7 days after their admission. In general, these residents do not need to be quarantined, restricted to their room or be cared for by HCP using full COVID-19 PPE unless they develop symptoms of COVID-19, are diagnosed with SARS-CoV-2 infection or the facility is directed to do so by public health authority.

Quarantine might also be considered if the resident is moderately to severely immunocompromised.

EXCEPTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED:

There may be circumstances when quarantine of asymptomatic residents who are up to date with all recommended COVID-19 vaccine doses and have a viral test that is negative for

SARS-CoV-2 or have a viral test that is positive SARS-CoV-2 in the past 90 days might be recommended (e.g., resident is moderately to severely immunocompromised). In the event of ongoing transmission within a facility that is not controlled with initial interventions, strong consideration should be given to use of quarantine for the residents of the affected units, regardless of vaccination status.

If a patient/resident experiences new symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and an evaluation fails to identify a diagnosis other than SARS-CoV-2 infection (e.g., influenza), then repeat viral diagnostic testing and quarantine may be warranted even if they have clinically recovered within 3 months.

CDC defines up to date as receiving all recommended COVID-19 vaccines including any boosters based on CDC Stay Up To Date with your Vaccines.

In general, testing is not necessary for asymptomatic people who have recovered from SARS-CoV-2 infection in the prior 90 days; however, if testing is performed on these people, an antigen test instead of nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT) is recommended. This is because some people may remain NAAT positive but not be infectious during this period.

If there are multiple cases on the wing/unit and when movement would otherwise introduce COVID-19 to another occupied wing/unit, do not relocate them. Limit the movement of all patients/patients/residents and employees/contracted staff in general.

Screening/Testing of Employees/Contracted Staff

Self-screening – Employees/contracted staff will be educated on Leisure Chateau’s plan to control exposure to the patients/residents. This plan may include, but not be limited to a) Reporting any suspected exposure to the EID while off duty to their supervisor; b) Possible precautionary removal of employees who report an actual or suspected exposure to the EID dependent upon their vaccination status; c) Self-screening for symptoms prior to reporting to work; d) Prohibiting employees/contracted staff from reporting to work if they are sick until cleared to do so by appropriate medical authorities and in compliance with appropriate labor laws.

Contingency Employees/Contracted Staffing Capacity Strategies

Leisure Chateau will review and adjust employees/contracted staff schedules, hire additional healthcare personnel (HCP) when possible, and rotate HCP to positions that support patient/resident care activities within Leisure Chateau and will follow conventional, contingency and crisis strategies when applicable. Additional guidance includes, but is not limited to, a) cancel all non-essential procedures and visits; b) shift HCP who work in other areas to support patient/resident care activities in the facility; c) ensure these HCP have received appropriate cross-training to work in these areas that are new to them; d) initiate employees/contracted staff communication meetings to attempt to address social factors in that might prevent HCP from reporting to work such as transportation or housing if HCP with vulnerable individuals; e) identify additional HCP to work in the facility via agency assistance; f) be aware of state-specific emergency waivers or changes to licensure requirements or renewals for select categories of HCP assistance, and g) request that HCP postpone elective time off from work where applicable.

Resident Quality of Life Protocol

Visitation- Outdoor/Indoor

Visitation will be allowed for all patients/residents of Leisure Chateau at all times even during the current COVID Omicron variant surge. When necessary, we are in contact with Ocean County Health Department for guidance managing outbreaks. Only in very rare instances would visitation be paused, or scheduling required. Our facility will maintain masking and social distancing requirements for visitors. Our Activities Department remains creative during any outbreak we might experience. Leisure Chateau also offers patients/residents to be visited outdoors with social distancing; we purchased 3 beautiful open gazebos which are located outside the building. Leisure Chateau also utilizes alternative means of “in person visitation” for all patients/residents such as virtual communications (phone calls, video-communication, facetime, WhatsApp video). The Activities department offers and arranges for these communications to any patient/resident that wishes to utilize these services. The visitor(s) agree(s) to notify us if they test positive for COVID-19 or exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 within fourteen (14) days of their visit.

Residents have the right to receive visitors of their choosing at the time of their choosing and in a manner that does not impose on the rights of another resident, such as a clinical necessity or safety restriction (see 42 CFR § 483.10(f)(4)(v)). Leisure Chateau facilitates in-person visitation consistent with the applicable CMS regulations, which can be done by applying the guidance stated below. Failure to facilitate visitation, without adequate reason related to clinical necessity or resident safety, would constitute a potential violation of 42 CFR § 483.10(f)(4), and Leisure Chateau would be subject to citation and enforcement actions.

Adherence to the core principles of infection prevention and control is an evidence-based way to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Residents and/or their representatives have the right to make choices about aspects of their lives in the facility that are significant to their well-being.

All visitors entering the facility are screened in the main lobby, regardless of their vaccination status, for the following criteria: a positive viral test for COVID-19, symptoms of COVID-19, or if they have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 infection.

Visitors should follow the same isolation and quarantine guidance as residents and should not visit for 10 days if they are a close contact of a positive case or have had a positive viral test. Community guidance for isolation and quarantine does not apply to individuals visiting long-term care facilities.

Facilities must allow indoor visitation at all times and for all residents as required under the CMS visitation rules (QSO-20-39-NH).

Although there is no limit on the number of visitors that a resident can have at one time, visits should be conducted in a manner that adheres to the core principles of infection prevention and control and does not increase COVID-19 infection risk to other residents. Visitors, regardless of vaccination status, should wear source control- well-fitting face mask and physically distance themselves from other residents or HCP. The safest practice is for residents and visitors to wear source control and physically distance, particularly if either of them are at risk for severe disease or are unvaccinated. If a resident's roommate is not up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations or immunocompromised (regardless of vaccination status), visits should not be conducted in the resident's room, if possible.

While it is safer for visitors not to enter the facility during an outbreak investigation and/or residents on transmission-based precautions, visitors must still be allowed in the facility. Remote visits are encouraged. Visitors are made aware of the potential risk of visiting during an outbreak investigation and adhere to the core principles of infection prevention. If residents or their representative would like to have a visit during an outbreak investigation, they should wear face coverings or masks during visits, regardless of vaccination status, and visits should ideally occur in the resident's room. Leisure Chateau will continue to follow guidance from NJDOH for direction on how to structure our visitations to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission during an outbreak investigation.

Visitors who are unwilling or unable to adhere to the core principles of COVID-19 infection prevention and control should not be permitted to visit or should be asked to leave. There may be times when the scope and severity of an outbreak warrants NJDOH to recommend a pause or limitations on visitation as a temporary, short-term intervention. These situations are expected to be extremely rare and only occur after the facility has been working with NJDOH to manage and prevent escalation of the outbreak. If the outbreak is severe enough to warrant pausing visitation, it would also warrant a pause on accepting new admissions (as long as there is adequate alternative access to care for hospital discharges).

Compassionate Care Visits

While end-of-life situations have been used as examples of compassionate care situations, the term "compassionate care situations" does not exclusively refer to end-of-life circumstances. Compassionate care

visits and visits required under federal disability rights law are allowed at all times regardless of a resident's vaccination status, the community transmission levels, or an outbreak.

Communication Plan Methods Strategy/Procedures

Leisure Chateau utilizes the following communication methods to notify patients/patients/residents, their families or guardians and employees/contracted staff about any infectious disease outbreaks:

- Established email list to update families via email.
- Information Officers serve as primary contact to families for inbound calls and conducting regular outbound calls to keep families up to date and offers phone line with a voice updated at set times (e.g., daily) with the facility's general operating status.
- Leisure Chateau updates the website accordingly to share the status of the facility and include information that helps families know what's happening in the loved one's environment.
- In the event that there is a new single confirmed infection of Covid-19, Leisure Chateau will notify families via email no later than the following day. Patients/Residents will be notified via a written communication with their meal service and/or in person notification by the SS and Activities Departments.

Education

Leisure Chateau will regularly train employees and practice the EID response plan through drills and exercises as part of the center's emergency preparedness training. Education includes and focuses on but is not limited to a) transmission-based precautions; b) donning and doffing PPE; c) PPE; d) handwashing; e) social distancing; f) signs and symptoms of COVID-19/Influenza; g) vaccination program/mandates; h) exposure and/or positive diagnosis to COVID-19 notification to supervisor.

Vaccination Program

COVID-19 vaccinations are offered to all patients/residents or their representative if they cannot make health care decisions, employees/contracted staff unless such immunization is medically contraindicated, per CDC guidance, or the individual has already been immunized. All will be educated on the COVID-19 vaccine they are offered, in a manner they can understand, including information on the benefits and risks consistent with CDC and/or FDA information. This education will, at a minimum, include the FDA EUA Fact Sheet or Vaccine Information Sheet for the vaccine(s) being offered: a) Pfizer-BioNTech; b) Moderna and All patients/residents or their representative, employees/contracted staff will be offered the opportunity to ask questions about the risk and benefits of vaccination. If the vaccine involves two doses, the same counseling indicated above, including risks, benefits and the fact sheet, before requesting consent for the second dose will be offered. Patients, residents, representatives will be provided the opportunity to refuse the vaccine and/or change their decision about vaccination at any time.

Staff Vaccine Requirements

Leisure Chateau developed a process to comply with the Federal Mandate and Executive Order No. 283 that that all staff are vaccinated against COVID-19 unless they have a medical or religious exemption to help reduce the risk residents and staff have of contracting and spreading COVID-19. Unvaccinated covered workers must obtain their first dose of the primary series of a COVID-19 vaccination by January 27, 2022 and all covered workers must provide adequate proof that they are up to date with their COVID-19 vaccination by February 28, 2022 provided however, that as to having received a booster dose, covered workers must provide adequate proof that they are up to date with their COVID-19 vaccinations by February 28, 2022, or within 3 weeks of

becoming eligible for a booster dose, whichever is later. New hires will be subject to the same requirements as current staff and must have received, at a minimum, the first dose of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine or a one-dose COVID-19 vaccine by the regulatory deadline or prior to providing any care, treatment, or other services for the facility and/or its patients. Employees/contracted staff may be eligible for a medical or religious exemption but must meet the criteria for the exemption to qualify. Employees/contracted staff without proper documentation or valid exemption are considered noncompliant with the vaccination requirements.

Additional Precautions and Contingency Plans for Unvaccinated Staff of Leisure Chateau

Employees/contracted staff who receive an exemption to the COVID-19 vaccine will be subjected to additional precautions to mitigate the transmission and spread of COVID-19, which may include a) requiring at least weekly testing for exempted staff, and staff who have not completed their primary vaccination series for until the regulatory requirement met, regardless of whether the facility or service site is located within a county with low to moderate community transmission, in addition to following CDC recommendations for testing unvaccinated staff in facilities located in counties with substantial to high community transmission; b) requiring employee/contracted staff who have not completed their primary vaccination series to use a NIOSH approved N95 or equivalent or higher-level respirator for source control, c) eye protection (e.g., goggles or a face shield that covers the front and sides of the face) should be worn during all patient/resident care encounters and when in areas of Leisure Chateau where they could encounter patients/residents (e.g. common halls/corridors); d) maintaining adequate physical distancing (approximately 6 feet or more) when around patients/residents, staff who have not completed their primary vaccination series will follow additional CDC-recommended precautions, such as adhering to universal source control and physical distancing measures in areas that are restricted from patient access (e.g., staff meeting rooms, kitchen), even if our facility is located in a county with low to moderate community transmission and e) reassigning duties may be considered, whenever possible, to not involve direct interactions with patients/residents.

In the event of an emergency or low staffing, Leisure Chateau will utilize agency staffing that can provide vaccinated staff to meet resident needs. When vaccinated staff are not sufficient to meet resident needs, the temporary utilization of unvaccinated staff may be facilitated until sufficient vaccinated staff are identified to meet resident needs. However, these staff will be required to meet the additional precautions identified above.

Documenting COVID-19 Vaccine for Staff and Residents

Leisure Chateau will maintain documentation for all residents and staff/contracted workers on COVID-19 vaccination, including the primary series, boosters and additional doses. Employees and contracted staff may demonstrate adequate proof they are up to date with their COVID-19 vaccinations by presenting documents if they list COVID-19 vaccines authorized for EUA in the United States and/or the World Health Organization (“WHO”), along with an administration date for each dose such as a) Their CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Card issued to the vaccine recipient by the vaccination site, or an electronic or physical copy of the same; b) Official record from the New Jersey Immunization Information System (NJIS) or other State immunization registry; c) A record from a health care provider’s portal/medical record system on official letterhead signed by a licensed physician, nurse practitioner, physician’s assistant, registered nurse or pharmacist; d) military immunization or health record from the United States Armed Forces; or e) Docket mobile phone application record or any state specific application that produces a digital COVID-19 health record. For patients/residents, the information will be documented in their medical record. Documentation will include either for the patient/resident and/or employee/contracted staff which vaccine and dosage was administer, any additional doses or boosters administered and date of administration.

Reporting Requirements COVID-19 Vaccine

1. Daily Novi-Survey/line listing during an outbreak

2. NHSN nightly

3. Weekly NHSN- Leisure Chateau will report on a weekly basis via NHSN by Sunday at 11:59pm ET, the COVID-19 vaccination status of patients/residents and employees/contracted staff which includes the total numbers of patients/residents and employees/contracted staff vaccinated, each dose of vaccine received, COVID-19 vaccination adverse events, supply availability and therapeutics administered to patients/residents for treatment of COVID-19.

4. Weekly vaccination reporting per Executive Directive 21-011 including an ongoing report of the immunization status of our employees/contracted staff submitted to the Department of Health (DOH) is completed and compiled by the Tuesday of each week after all appropriate COVID-19 vaccination and testing records for our employees and contracted staff is reviewed. It includes the data for the preceding Tuesday through Monday; the number of employees and contracted staff who are fully vaccinated, those who are submitting to once or twice weekly testing. Noncompliance is tracked for those who have not submitted to once or twice weekly testing each week, during the prior week, and are not excluded from testing due to recent COVID-19 diagnosis and may have refused vaccination and testing; noncompliance results with resultant disciplinary actions/counseling.

Knowledge Acquired- Lessons Learned

Having experienced this extremely difficult pandemic which is soon approaching now nearly two (2) years, Leisure Chateau has gained a wealth of knowledge and insight into many areas involving our healthcare community. No nation, state, hospital system, LTC organization or single individual could have and/or can foresee the challenges associated with a pandemic, however, we can learn valuable information along the way from our response to, and experience with COVID-19. The lessons drawn from the Corona Virus remain a focus within the facility as follows:

- ✓ Follow the guidance/develop a collaborative partnership with healthcare experts such as the CDC, HHS, NJDOH and our local board of health
- ✓ Continual review and revision of Infection Control policies and procedures.
- ✓ Continued education in Infection Control policies and procedures.
- ✓ Importance of the Screening Process.
- ✓ Importance of Testing and Continued Testing.
- ✓ Continued Notification of patients/residents, families and employees/contracted staff on COVID-19 updates.
- ✓ Hypervigilance of and oversight of the environment to search anything reminiscent of activity or threat of the spread of COVID-19.
- ✓ The importance of proper use of PPE
- ✓ The importance of limiting visitors when there is a potential pandemic

Influenza Program

Leisure Chateau maintains compliance with Statute N.J.S.A. 26:2H-18.79 which requires facilities to establish and implement an annual influenza vaccination program. Healthcare workers are required to get a flu vaccine unless they have a valid medical contraindication.

References

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/long-term-care.html>

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-38-nh-revised.pdf>

<https://www.cms.gov/files/document/nursing-home-visitation-faq-1223.pdf>

<https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/Cohorting-PAC.pdf>

Revised March 1, 2022

