



VESTRACARE
COMMUNITIES OF CARE

Guidance from the
NY State Department
of Health and
Centers for
Disease Control

VISITATION GUIDELINES



Appointments are not required for visitation.

As of 1/7/2022, **proof of a negative Covid-19 test is required prior to visitation, regardless of vaccination status.** The test must be obtained within 24 hours prior to the visit.

In an effort to promote effective infection prevention and ensure the safety of our residents and staff, **ALL VISITORS ARE REQUIRED** to wear **DISPOSABLE MASKS** when visiting. The masks will be provided to you upon entry into the facility and are to be worn in place of woven fabric/cloth masks. If you wish to wear a cloth mask, it should be placed **OVER** the disposable mask. Please wear the mask over your nose and mouth and pinch the nose bar to ensure a secure fit. Residents must also wear a facemask over their nose and mouth when visiting with loved ones.

The following is recommended: Evening hours for subacute residents to avoid interfering with therapy sessions.

Recommended Hours:

8 am to 8 pm with avoidance of meal time hours 8am-10am, 12pm-2pm and 5pm-7pm.

Visitation is not permitted in meal service areas or the therapy gym.

Electronic screening is required. **Masks must be worn.**

The DOH expects that all nursing homes adhere to the Core Principles of COVID-19 Infection Prevention:

- Visitors who have a positive viral test for COVID-19, symptoms of COVID-19, or currently meet the criteria for quarantine, should not enter the facility. Facilities should screen all who enter for these visitation exclusions.
- New admissions may be on transmission-based precautions or quarantine until tested negative for Covid. Although visitation is not recommended for residents in transmission-based precautions or quarantine, visits may still be allowed in the resident's room with all parties wearing well-fitting masks.
- Although it is safer for visitors not to enter the facility during a Covid 19 outbreak, visitation will be allowed with information given to the visitor about potential risk of exposure.
- During indoor visitation, visitors' movement is limited within the facility. Visitors should not walk around different halls of the facility. Rather, they should go directly to the resident's room or designated visitation area.
- Hand hygiene (use of alcohol-based hand rub is preferred).
- Physical distancing at least six feet between people, in accordance with CDC guidance.
- Instructional signage throughout the facility and proper visitor education on COVID-19 signs and symptoms, infection control precautions, other applicable facility practices (e.g., use of disposable facemask, specified entries, exits and routes to designated areas, hand hygiene).
- Cleaning and disinfecting high-frequency touched surfaces often, and designated visitation areas after each visit.
- Appropriate staff use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Effective cohorting of residents (e.g., separate areas dedicated to COVID-19 care).
- Resident and staff testing conducted as required.