

Team:

As you know, older individuals are at higher risk of developing serious complications related to COVID-19. Being connected to a nursing home gives us an increased level of responsibility to help protect this vulnerable population. We have already restricted access to their side of the building and minimized contact between the facilities. As a matter of precaution to assist in protecting our neighbors at St. Agnes, our patients and co-workers, we are asking that staff comply with the following precautions:

Infection Control:

1. All staff members should enter thru the administrative building upon arrival for their shift. A table with a sign in sheet and temperature log has been placed outside of Connie's door. Please sign in and document your temperature prior to entering the unit. Be sure to wipe the thermometer down with alcohol preps between uses.
2. Please wash hands thoroughly prior to entering the unit and continue to sanitize as directed while providing patient care.
3. As healthcare providers, we are asking that staff members practice social distancing. This includes minimizing interactions with others and social gatherings that might increase your exposure.
4. Please continue to monitor your own health and notify your supervisor if you have fever over 100.4 AND symptoms of respiratory illness or if you have traveled recently to areas where community spread is occurring. This seems to be primarily Orleans, Jefferson and St. Tammany at this time. See below for list of currently identified cases and locations.
5. For everyone's protection, we are carefully screening our inquiries as well. This includes monitoring for referral locations so that we are not accepting patients from areas where community spread is occurring and checking for fever/respiratory symptoms prior to acceptance.
6. We will NOT have our monthly staff meeting this month. We will post any updates/information via employee email and portal.

The number of coronavirus cases in the state of Louisiana has risen to 171 as of Tuesday morning. Four deaths have been reported by the state so far. 12 parishes in Louisiana have reported cases. See the breakdown of those cases below:

Orleans Parish - 116
Jefferson - 31
St Tammany - 6
Caddo - 4
St. Charles - 3
Terrebonne - 3
Lafourche - 2
St. Bernard 2
Ascension -1
Bossier -1
St. John the Baptist - 1
Washington - 1

Human Resources Updates:

- It is important that the unit is adequately staffed for the safety of our staff and patients. If you are not ill, we need you to report to work.
- Team members who are scheduled to work and do not report to work as scheduled will clock an unexcused absence and will not be allowed to use PTO for that day. Exceptions will be made for the team member's personal illness or qualifications under the Family and Medical Leave Act.
- Paychecks will be available FRIDAY AT 2 PM.

Communication:

We plan on sending out updates as frequently as they are available. This is a rapidly evolving situation and we will do our best to communicate transparently and frequently.

Thank you for all you are doing to care for our patients, communities and each other.

Jessica Broussard, LCSW

Chief Operating Officer

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