



January 14, 2022

COVID 19 PROTOCOL #13

Although COVID-19 vaccination remains effective in preventing severe disease, recent data suggest vaccination becomes less effective over time at preventing infection or milder illness with symptoms, especially in people aged 65 years and older. Early data also suggest the increased transmissibility of the Omicron variant is two to four times as infectious as the Delta variant. Recent evidence also shows that vaccine effectiveness against COVID-19 infection is decreasing over time without boosters. Given the greater transmissibility of the Omicron variant, the risk of outbreaks in senior living communities is significant. It will be important to continue the availability of booster shots through booster clinics and to encourage residents and team members to participate.

Below are updated protocols determined by the most recent CDC guidance that has been established as we continue to learn more about the transmissibility of this disease.

The protocols below are effective immediately

All exposed or positive residents and team members must be reported to the Covid-19 Response team by emailing to: covid19response@solveresl.com

Approvals for residents being removed from quarantine or isolation or for team members returning to work must be emailed to the Covid-19 Response Team PRIOR TO residents' removal from quarantine or team members' return to work.

When emailing the Covid-19 Response Team, always "cc" your RVP.

FACE MASKS:

- At this time, the risk of spreading the omicron variant to any individual remains very high. For this reason, mask wearing is required for all team members regardless of vaccine status.
- All team members are required to wear a surgical mask while in the community until further notice
- Any community in outbreak status must wear N95 masks until they are no longer considered to be in outbreak. Per the CDC, outbreak is defined as 1 or more individuals

who reside or work in the community have tested positive. Please consult with the covid response team if there are concerns acquiring the necessary face masks.

- All residents are strongly encouraged to wear face masks indoors in a community, especially in communities experiencing a Covid outbreak, regardless of vaccine status.
- Positive residents and the team members providing care or support to the positive residents must wear a N95 mask during the time care or services are rendered.

SCREENING:

- Anyone entering the community must be screened for exposure, symptoms and have their temperature taken and recorded. If anyone answers “yes” to any screening question or has a temperature greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, they are not permitted to enter the community.
- Each community must set up a process to have designated individuals alerted if anyone answers “yes” to a screening question or has a temperature greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit.
- If using Accushield the GM, WD and at least one other individual designated by the GM must be placed into the Accushield system to be alerted if anyone signing in answers “Yes” to a symptom or exposure question or if their temperature is greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit.
- If using paper sign in logs, the GM, WD and at least one other individual designated by the GM must be alerted by concierge if anyone signing in answers “yes” to a symptom or exposure question or if their temperature is greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit
- If the GM, WD, other designee or concierge are not present in the community, an individual who will monitor the screening answers must be designated prior to the beginning of that shift.

NEW MOVE INS

- Any new resident moving into the community who is not must present with a negative PCR or rapid test within 72 hours of move in.
- New move ins who are unvaccinated must:
 - Be monitored daily for symptoms
 - Wear a N95 mask for 5 days post move in when in all common areas
 - Be tested for covid using a rapid or PCR test on their 5th day after move in

- If the resident is positive for signs or symptoms of covid or they are not wearing the proper mask in communal areas, they will be required to quarantine for the remainder of their first 5 days of move in.

OUTSIDE VENDORS/MOVERS

- All outside vendors and movers are required to screen upon entry and use hand sanitizer.
- They are encouraged to bring an N95 mask but are permitted to wear a surgical mask. A regular cloth mask is not permitted.
- Services and support should be rendered as quickly as possible and not in common areas but only in the designated living area of that resident
- Health care support services such as Rehab may be provided in common areas such as the fitness center or ambulation in the hallways when necessary and are to follow their plan of care for the resident
- Outside vendors must follow any additional specific state or local guidance for visitors

EXPOSED RESIDENTS:

Unvaccinated residents and vaccinated residents that received their second shot more than 5 months ago (Pfizer or Moderna) or their J & J shot more than 2 months ago, and have not received a booster shot must:

- Quarantine for 5 days followed by strict N95 face mask use for an additional 5 days.
- Take a covid test 5 days after exposure or 5 days after their initial negative test.
- If the resident is unable to quarantine and is asymptomatic, they must wear an N95 masks at all times when around others for 10 days from their exposure date.
- If a resident is symptomatic or tests positive, they **must** quarantine to avoid transmitting the virus to others.
- Monitor resident for symptoms daily using the individualized resident screening tool for the duration of their quarantine.

If a resident has received a booster, completed their vaccine series with Pfizer or Moderna in the last 5 months or has completed the J & J vaccine in the last 2 months, the resident must:

- Wear a surgical or N95 mask around others for 10 days, but they are not required to quarantine.
- Quarantine and test right away if the resident develops symptoms.
- If no symptoms have developed, test on day 5 to confirm they are negative and continue to wear the mask for the remaining 5 days.

COVID 19 POSITIVE RESIDENTS:

COVID positive residents, regardless of vaccine status must:

- Isolate for 5 days.
- If they are asymptomatic or their symptoms are resolving and they are without fever for 24 hours, they can come out of quarantine after 5 days. But they must wear a N95 masks when around others for an additional 5 days after that.
- Monitor resident for symptoms every 4 hours if symptomatic
- Monitor resident for symptoms every 8 hours if asymptomatic

EXPOSED TEAM MEMBERS:

Team members who have not received their booster or who are unvaccinated (even if they have been positive in the last 90 days), must:

- Stay out of work for 10 days.
- If the team member tests negative on day 5-7 after exposure, they may return to work after 7 days. The negative test must be taken within 48 hours prior to returning to work.
- If this creates a significant staffing concern for the community, the team member may be approved to continue working,, but they must wear an N95 mask and negative test via a rapid or PCR test on days 1, 2, 3, and 5-7 (total of 4 tests). **This MUST be approved by the covid 19 response team prior to returning the team member to work.**

Boosted team members who have been exposed and are asymptomatic have:

- No work restrictions.
- They must receive a and negative test on day 2 and once again between days 5 – 7
- The team member must wear a N95 mask for 10 days.

COVID 19 POSITIVE TEAM MEMBERS:

Team members who test positive via a PCR or rapid test, regardless of vaccine status, must:

- Stay out of work for 10 days.
- They may return earlier only if they test negative using a PCR test after 7 days and within 48 hours prior to returning to work. To return, the team member must also be asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic with symptoms improving and have no fever for at least 24 hours.

- ***It is not necessary to re-test any team member after they have received an initial positive rapid or PCR test except for the possibility of returning them to work after 7 days.***
- If this creates a significant staffing concern for the community, the team member may be restricted from work for 5 days instead and wear an N95 mask for an additional 5 days after their return. However, they must also be asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic with symptoms improving and no fever for at least 24 hours. ***This MUST be approved by the covid19response team prior to the team member returning to work.***
- ***Any positive team member re-testing to return to work early must have a PCR test. A rapid test will not be accepted.***

Note: When determining the onset of symptoms or disease:

- For those who are positive:
 - The first day of symptom onset is considered day 0
 - For those who are asymptomatic, the first positive test is considered day 0.
- For those who are exposed:
 - The first day of exposure is considered day 0

VISITORS, ACTIVITY PROGRAMS, TOURS AND DINING ROOM:

- Any changes required to these programs or practices will be evaluated and determined individually at each community by the covid19response team
- If the community state, county or local department of health requires changes to any of the above practices, the covid19response team must be informed immediately via the covid19response email with a "CC" to your RVP.
- All visitors are required to sign in and answer the signs, symptoms and exposure question.
- All visitors must wear a facemask and use hand sanitizer prior to entering the community

BOOSTER CLINICS:

- Booster clinics must be scheduled for all residents and team members
- If the community coordinated a previously scheduled vaccine and booster clinic between September and November of 2021, a 2nd booster clinic must be scheduled between February and March of 2022.

- If you identify team members and residents who have not received the booster shot prior to this timeframe and who are eligible to receive the booster, assistance should be provided in helping them get the booster shot via local pharmacy or by hosting a booster clinic sooner.

WEEKLY TESTING

- Continue to obtain testing kits in preparation for weekly testing unvaccinated team members or residents and team members during an outbreak
- More information will follow shortly on the proposed requirement to test unvaccinated team members.

DOCUMENTATION OF VACCINATION BOOSTERS AND TESTING RESULTS

- All team member and resident vaccination and booster shot information and dates must be documented in ALIS in the Covid Center.
- All team member and resident testing results must be documented in ALIS in the covid center
- Copies of vaccination cards and testing results must be maintained and uploaded to the Covid Center in ALIS

COVID TRACKER:

- Covid Tracker Smartsheets provide the numerical information of positive residents and team members as well as numerical information regarding the vaccination and booster status of residents and team members. **All (3) three Covid trackers must be updated every week by EOB Monday.**

Notification of Resident or Team Members who are Covid positive or exposed:

The community must inform the following groups below if a resident or team member has tested positive:

- The Covid1-9 Response Team via email to: covid19response@solveresl.com
- The local department of health
- The community licensing agency (frequency dependent upon the state the community is located).

The community must inform the following group below if a resident or team member has been exposed:

- The Covid1-9 Response Team via email to: covid19response@solveresl.com

Required Notification Information

When notifying the Covid-19 Response Team of an exposed or positive team member or resident, the following information must be included in the email:

Positive/Exposed Team Member:

- Team Member Name and Position
- Last day of work in the community
- Symptomatic or Asymptomatic
- Vaccine status (unvaccinated, vaccinated, and booster)
- Exposure date
- Positive test information (date, rapid, or PCR). Send test results with email when possible.
- Is team member positive from exposure at the community or from exposure outside of work, to the extent we can determine that
- If work related exposure, was it a resident or other team member they were exposed to?
- Were any residents or other team members exposed?
- Most recent and the next scheduled date of community wide testing due to positive or exposure

Positive/Exposed Resident:

- Name of Resident
- Apartment number
- Exposure date or Positive test date
- Other positive residents near resident's apartment
- If positive resident, results of contact tracing for other potentially exposed residents
- Symptomatic or Asymptomatic
- Vaccine status (unvaccinated, vaccinated and booster)
- Most recent and the next scheduled date of community wide testing due to positive or exposure

Specific State and County Protocols:

Every community must remain informed of specific state and local covid protocols and inform the covid response team of these updates and protocols specific to their area at the time of notification. The covid response team will work individually with each community to assist how to implement the protocols.

TEXAS:

- Notify DHHS of a newly positive team member or resident when the first case occurs

New Jersey/California/Texas/Missouri/Georgia

- Weekly testing on ALL residents and team members when a positive case in a resident or team member has been identified. Test every 5-7 days until there are 14 days of no positive team members or residents

Florida

- Consult with local department of health to determine if routine testing is required once in outbreak status, which is defined as 1 covid positive resident or team member

California

- Indoor visitation is only eligible for vaccinated people and for those who are eligible for the booster shot and have received one
- All unvaccinated visitors or those who are eligible for the booster shot and who have not received the booster shot can visit outdoors only
- All visitors visiting indoors must present with their vaccine card to enter the community and they must present with a negative covid PCR test taken within 2 days prior to the visit or a negative rapid antigen test taken within the last one day to enter the community
- All visitors visiting outdoors must present with a negative covid PCR test taken within 2 days prior to the visit or a negative rapid antigen test taken within the last one day to enter the community