

Visitors Expectations Fact Sheet

Due to the current Omicron COVID-19 outbreak throughout the State of New York, the New York State Department of Health has issued the following requirements and testing protocols for all visitors entering a nursing home in New York State during the duration of the Omicron outbreak.

- Visitors are screened for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 prior to resident access and visitation will be refused if the individual(s) exhibits any COVID-19 symptoms or do not pass the screening questions.
- Screening shall consist of temperature checks, observation by screener, and screening questions to assess potential exposure to COVID-19 in the 14 days prior to the visit.
- Visitors are required to present a negative Emergency Use Authorization by the FDA SARS CoV-2 test result one day prior to visitation for antigen tests and two days prior to visitation for NAAT (e.g., PCR) tests. (e.g., a Sunday visit should be conducted no earlier than Saturday if it's an antigen test or Friday if it's a PCR test.
- Visitors will be required to provide contact information, including first and last name, street address, daytime and evening phone number, email address if available.
- Outdoor visits should occur when practicable; however, indoor visits are permitted at all times. When visiting indoors, visitors should proceed directly to the designated visitation area. Visitors should not roam hallways.
- Visitors must wear a well-fitting non-surgical paper mask or a mask of higher quality (i.e., surgical mask, KN95 or N95) that cover both the nose and the mouth at all times during any visitation at the facility. If the visitor wishes, a cloth mask may be placed over the paper mask.
- Visitors must physically distance (at least six feet) from facility personnel and other patients/residents/visitors that are not directly associated with the specific resident(s) being visited by that individual.
- Facilities will provide alcohol-based hand rub, consisting of at least 60 percent (60%) alcohol. Rub hands together using friction.
- If you develop signs and symptoms consistent with COVID-19 within 14 days following a visit, please let the facility know immediately.
- Please follow facility-specific signs and instructions related to visitation, including entry and exit from the facility.
- Visitors are not required to be vaccinated or boosted, but it is strongly advised for those who are eligible..
- Compassionate care visits will continue with the same directives as before.

¹ According to the Centers for Disease for Control and Prevention (CDC), "fully vaccinated" refers to a person who is more than two weeks past receipt of the second dose in a two-dose series, or following receipt of the sole dose of a single-dose vaccine