

# Long Island State Veterans Home



AT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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January 25, 2022

Dear LISVH Family Member:

We are pleased to provide you the latest information on our situation with the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). As of today, we have a total of nine residents who have been confirmed positive for COVID-19. Eight residents are here at the Home, all properly cohorted and quarantined and have been offered the Sotrovimab monoclonal antibody treatment. One of our residents is currently being treated at a Stony Brook University Hospital. On the employee front, we currently have five employees who are confirmed positive for COVID-19. All five have no to mild symptoms and are properly quarantined in their homes.

As always, we are monitoring COVID-19 activity in our community. Here is the latest situation. Yesterday's positivity rate for COVID-19 in Suffolk County was 10% and the seven-day average is 12.3%. Currently, there are 796 individuals hospitalized for COVID-19. Of those hospitalized, 137 are in ICU's and 83 remain on ventilators. These numbers continue to trend downward; however, this third wave of COVID-19 activity remains prevalent in our community. Please continue to take precautions.

We have received guidance from the New York State Department of Health regarding the vaccine booster mandate. All healthcare workers in New York State who are eligible to receive the booster vaccine must do so by February 21, 2022. We are reviewing our employee database and identifying those staff members who are now eligible and qualify for this mandate. Our next onsite booster clinic for employees will be conducted this Friday, January 28, 2022. We hope to be in full compliance by the established deadline.

Earlier today, we received additional units of the Sotrovimab monoclonal antibodies. Richard Smith, our Director of Pharmacy, reports that we are in good shape with this important treatment option. To date, we have administered this latest monoclonal antibody treatment to all interested residents with great success. We continue to pursue obtaining the latest oral antiviral medication known as PAXLOVID. Unfortunately, there is very limited supply of PAXLOVID being distributed to skilled nursing facilities at this time. We hope to be able to secure this medication as soon it is available

The visitor screening and COVID testing verification process is going well. We would like to thank all our family members and visitors for your compliance with the New York State Department of Health requirement for all visitors to be tested for COVID-19 prior to visiting the nursing home. We would like to remind families that all visitors are required to show a negative COVID-19 test result. A rapid antigen test taken within 24-hours of the visit or a PCR test taken within 48-hours will be accepted. If you are unable to obtain a COVID-19 test in the required timeframe, a limited number of iHealth COVID-19 rapid antigen home test kits will be available for visitor use. Please visit the attached link for directions on how to use the iHealth test - [How to use the iHealth COVID19 Antigen Rapid Test - YouTube](#).

If you have a COVID-19 test report within the required timeframe, please bring the result with you for authorization prior to your visit. If your test is an at-home test, please take a photo of the final result and be prepared to present the photo at the screening desk. If you are unable to obtain a test prior to visiting, please enter the facility and obtain a test kit from the screening desk. You will be required to return to your car and follow the directions to administer the test to yourself. All visitors must be able to self-administer the test. Staff will be available to help facilitate and provide instructional assistance from 7 AM to 4 PM. After waiting the allotted time, you will be able to check the results. If the test is positive, please do not re-enter the facility. You are instructed to return home and follow CDC guidance for when it is safe to return to visit. If your iHealth COVID19 test is negative, please bring the test kit to the screening desk for verification. We appreciate your patience as we strive to abide by ever-changing regulations and continue to work to keep our residents and staff safe.

In closing, we want to once again thank all of you – our families. We appreciate your ongoing cooperation and support. We remain here for you.

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