



November 21, 2020

## **UPDATE TO ALL FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

Hello, we have no new positive cases today.

Donegal is now off of full outbreak precautions!

The new normal is outlined below:

1. Droplet precautions - continue to wear mask and eye protection.
2. The Donegal residents can eat in the dining room as per the usual dining practices with at maximum 16 residents in the dining room separated by a plexiglass table divider per meal.
3. Designated caregivers can take the residents out for fresh air on the balcony or in the secure garden area according to the garden schedule.

Unfortunately, Cavan and Wexford remain on full precautions.

There have been some questions about the recent change from the Ministry of LTC regarding testing for all LTC homes in an Orange/Red/Lockdown region. The Ministry requirement is that proof of a negative test result within the past week must be provided when visiting.

The requirement is to show a result, not that the testing has been done. Unfortunately depending on the time for the results to be received, designated care givers will need to schedule testing more frequently than once per week. The new requirement is from the province and not St. Pat's but we must follow the provincial and public health directives.

St. Pat's will be implementing this new guidance as follows:

The implementation of these new requirements will be phased in to ensure that designated caregivers have an opportunity to schedule Covid19 testing appointments and have a weekly result.

- Covid19 test results received prior to November 23 will be accepted for the prior 2 week period until Nov. 30. However, as of Nov. 23 designated caregivers must provide proof of a negative result. Please be prepared to provide the screener with the proof of a negative Covid19 test.
- All Covid19 test results on and after November 23 are valid for only one week. Please schedule your appointments for testing to ensure that you have a negative test result in the past week.

Take care and be well,

***Janet Morris***

President and CEO