

Guthrie Cortland Nursing and Rehabilitation Center **Pandemic Emergency Plan**

State and Federal governments have enacted requirements for the safe operation of residential and rehabilitation facilities during times of a pandemic (such as COVID-19). This document outlines this facilities response to those legal and regulatory responsibilities during a pandemic.

STAFF EDUCATION

Staff are educated about infection control policies and procedures including exposure risks, airborne, droplet and blood borne pathogens, universal precautions, and proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and proper handling of hazardous and contaminated waste.

Education is provided via the electronic education software.

Staff are educated upon hire and annually to Infection Control protocols at the facility annual training session.

PROCUREMENT OF SUPPLIES

Guthrie Cortland Medical Center incident command coordinates with The Guthrie Clinic system materials management leadership to ensure availability and procurement of sanitation/disinfectant supplies. Sanitation/disinfection supplies include disinfectants known to kill the organism causing the illness and the necessary PPE ensuring the safety of the staff and residents while performing direct care during the disease outbreak. A 60-day supply of PPE is maintained and accessible through contract or system storage.

SCREENING

During an outbreak, staff, as directed by the NYSDOH and/or CDC, will follow recommended screening guidelines for the illness for reporting to work.

Routine testing, screening will also be conducted per NYSDOH and/or CDC guidelines.

REDUCING SPREAD OF INFECTION:

Resident will be required to abide by NYSDOH and/or CDC recommendations.

Staff including providers will be required to abide by NYSDOH and/or CDC recommendations.

Visitors/Resident representatives will be required to abide by NYSDOH and/or CDC recommendations.

Infection control personnel will alert staff and visitors to the presence of pandemic disease through the placement of signs in highly visible areas with instructions for staff, residents, and visitors to control the spread of infection.

Information about the pandemic will be available to staff, residents, and resident representatives on the Guthrie website.

VISITATION

Visitation protocols will follow the NYSDOH and/or CDC current guidelines and may be modified due to the extent of the outbreak and impact upon facility.

Virtual visits using various electronic methods, will be encouraged to keep residents engaged with family and friends.

ADDITIONAL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Depending on the disease, residents may be prohibited from receiving items from outside the facility. Appointments outside the building, unless deemed essential, may be rescheduled, or cancelled. Use of telehealth may be substituted for some appointments. Only essential vendors and/or stakeholders may be permitted in the building and will abide by screening and testing requirements.

Cohorting of residents may also occur dependent on the number of residents infected with the illness. Cohorting of residents will follow NYSDOH and/or CDC guidelines.

Guthrie Cortland Nursing and Rehabilitation staff will notify residents and their representatives of the status of the pandemic utilizing the monthly newsletter. They will also be informed of the actions being taken to contain and minimize the spread of the disease. Residents' representatives whose resident loved one has been diagnosed with the illness will be updated frequently and upon change in condition.

The Guthrie Cortland Nursing and Rehabilitation Pandemic Emergency Plan is available on the Guthrie website at www.guthrie.org.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting Infection Prevention Resource at (607) 756-3900.

1/11/22 created.