

“A Country Inn that happens to be a Nursing Home”



Nursing & Convalescent Home

78 Sliker Road, PO Box 398, Califon, (Hunterdon) NJ 07830

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Little Brook Nursing and Convalescent Home

Policy and Procedure for Essential Caregiver Visitation

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance for conducting Essential Caregiver visitation during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Pertinent Definitions

COVID Signs and Symptoms: Fever; chills; cough; shortness of breath/difficulty breathing; sore throat; fatigue; headache; new loss of taste or smell; congestion/ runny nose; nausea/vomiting; diarrhea; muscle/body aches

Essential Care Giver: An individual, (i.e., family member, outside caregiver, friend) who:

1. Was previously (prior to the COVID-19 pandemic) actively engaged with a resident/patient
2. Is committed to providing assistance with activities of daily living and other care needs

Phase 0: Any facility with an active COVID 19 Outbreak or any facility that cannot - or has yet to - attest to the criteria required to advance stages as per this facility's Reopening Policy.

Phase 1: Facilities that never had an outbreak or that concluded an outbreak and:

- a. 14 days have passed since New Jersey moved to Stage 1 (May 2, 2020)
- b. The facility has submitted all the attestations required

Phase 2: Facilities that never had an outbreak or that concluded an outbreak and:

- a. 14 days have passed since New Jersey moved to Stage 2 (June 15, 2020)
- b. The facility has submitted all the attestations required

Phase 3: Facilities that never had an outbreak or that concluded an outbreak and:

- a. 14 days have passed since New Jersey moved to Stage 3 (DATE TBD)
- b. The facility has submitted all the attestations required

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Policy

This facility recognizes the critical role family members and other outside caregivers often have in the care of our residents. As a result, pursuant to the New Jersey Department of Health Executive Directive No. 20-026 date August 10, 2020, approved Essential Caregivers will be permitted to enter the facility and provide assistance with activities of daily living and other care need

Procedure:

1. An individual can request to apply to be an Essential Caregiver or can be asked by the facility if they would like to apply based on their known history of providing essential caregiving services
 - a. No one can be approved to be an Essential Caregiver without having submitted an application
 - i. The Administrator, Director of Nursing (or ADON when applicable), and Director of Social Services will approve or deny applications submitted
2. Prior to receiving an essential caregiving visit, each eligible resident/patient (or representative when applicable) will be consulted about their wishes in order to determine whom they wish to designate as the Essential Caregiver
 - a. This individual must have provided regular care to the resident (i.e. a wife who regularly came in to feed her husband)
3. Residents/patients will be permitted to designate more than one Essential Caregiver based on their past involvement and needs (i.e., more than one family member previously split time to provide care for the resident)
 - a. In these situations, facility staff will work cooperatively with the resident/patient and caregiver to work out a schedule to accommodate the Essential Caregivers
 - i. Each resident/patient can have no mor