

November 9, 2022

COVID Update:

Dear Family members and loved ones,

I do hope this message finds everyone keeping well, staying healthy and enjoying what appears to be the last few days of unseasonably warmer temperatures.

Let me get straight to some positive news, we're seeing the number of current cases decline rapidly. Just a week ago we were at over fifty (50) active cases and now we're at ten (10), so things are moving in the right direction. We are just as eager to have everyone eating and socializing together as you and your loved ones are. If we continue to maintain this direction we should be fully cleared and back to normal by November 17th.

There have been very few concerns and recommendations from Hamilton Public Health and the Infection Prevention & Control (IPAC) team, so we're handling the Outbreak as best as possible, it's just very draining on the staff and so mentally and emotionally difficult for your loved ones. I know this isn't easy for you all either, but we are committed to resolving this as soon as possible and have been doing everything to maintain one-to-one resident visits with our Programs Staff.

I must really commend our staff and management team, they've been really fantastic and have gone above and beyond, helping each other however they can. We've experienced a lot of cross departmental assistance and this has really strengthened the team.

I did get hit by COVID, fairly hard, so was not an active team player for much of this Outbreak, so I must credit everyone else for really stepping it up!! Staff and managers!! Several other staff contracted COVID and this has put extra responsibilities on others, but the work was completed and we're also seeing staff return to work and staffing levels return to normal.

Our clinical team has observed two very important factors to help minimize the risk of contracting the virus and slowing down its spread. 1) If you feel sick at all, please stay away from work, your loved ones or our home. 2) Use proper PPE (Masking) and hand hygiene. This prevents the spread of this and many viruses.

There are many ways, including and most fundamentally by taking the vaccine, to stop or slow down the spread of this virus, but we have noted just how important a mask (PPE/hand hygiene) and staying away when sick can be.

Please continue to take precautions and stay well. We look forward to your soon return.

Thank you again,

Scott Kozachenko, Administrator

If you're just not feeling well, with any illness or symptom: *fever, cough, sore throat, difficulty breathing, headache, issues with your hearing or with your eyes (e.g. pink eye)*, please don't visit, just safely monitor yourself and get tested. ***Even the slightest symptom(s) can be a red flag.***

* If you have questions about the Ministry's direction or requirements, please contact MLTCpandemicresponse@ontario.ca . If you have questions about a specific home's vaccination policy, please contact the individual home.

This message will be posted on our website www.hgseniorcare.ca For any further information on the status of our community, please visit www.hamilton.ca/public-health For any information from the Government of Ontario, please visit [COVID-19 \(coronavirus\) in Ontario](https://www.ontario.ca/covid-19) or www.covid-19.ontario.ca