# **COVID Guidelines Update**



Arbors of Hop Brook is currently working with the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health to adopt the recently updated guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The very latest guidance from 4/27/21 is found here:

Updated Healthcare Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations in Response to COVID-19 Vaccination | CDC

We will discuss these topics in our Town Hall Meeting, scheduled for Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3 pm. 1 (800) 434-5932 US Toll Free Passcode for Participants: 8328 076 # **We welcome family and residents to participate!** 

## **Brief Summary of New CDC Guidelines**

### This will be in effect Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021:

#### **Resident Activity**

New guidelines offer residents the option to participate in scheduled resident activities with or without masks or social distancing. Arbors will provide more details about the "mask optional" areas throughout the building. Resident masking will still be required when interactions with non-residents occur: in hallways, elevators, laundry rooms, lobby, etc. Masking will also be required when approaching or interacting with caregivers, vendors, contractors, instructors, volunteers or Arbors staff at all times, including when in apartments.

Outdoor visits without masks are permitted and open to all! This includes visitors, staff and/or residents (mask if attending a large outdoor event).

#### Visitors

Generally, new guidelines are outlined below:

**Visits with vaccinated visitors:** Apartment visits may include personal contact and unmasking with their visitor if **visitors and residents are both fully vaccinated.** Again, visitors and residents can visit without masks and without social distancing as long as they are alone in the resident's apartment (no additional residents or staff in the apartment).

**Visits with unvaccinated visitors:** The safest approach is for everyone to maintain physical distancing and to wear well-fitting masks. However, if the resident is fully vaccinated, they can choose to have close contact (including touch) with their unvaccinated visitor(s) while both continue to wear well-fitting masks in their apartment.

**All Visitors:** Visitors should wear well fitting masks and physically distance from staff, other residents, or other visitors that are not part of their group while in the facility and through hallways. At this time, visits are limited to the resident's apartment, outside, or off campus (common area visitors are not permitted).

## Staff & Caregivers

Staff & Caregivers will continue to masks while at work. However, **fully vaccinated** staff can dine together and socialize together in break rooms and conduct in-person meetings without masks or physical distancing. If unvaccinated staff or any residents or visitors are present, however, everyone should wear masks and unvaccinated persons should physically distance from others.

## General Guidelines about Persons who are Fully Vaccinated

Although the risk of COVID-19 infection may be minimal to the fully vaccinated person themselves, vaccinated persons should be mindful of the small potential risk of transmitting the virus to others .This is especially the case for seniors or other people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

In indoor public spaces (e.g. church, hair salon, store) the vaccination status of other people or whether they are at increased risk for severe COVID-19 is likely unknown. Therefore, fully vaccinated people should continue to wear a well-fitted mask, cover coughs and sneezes, and wash hands often.

## More information will be forthcoming. Thank you!

**Information Sources:** 

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/infection-control-after-vaccination.html