December 15, 2020

Dear Resident and Family Member,

**COVID-19 Vaccine Update**

We have just received additional information from the Pharmacy that will be supplying the COVID-19 vaccine. The pharmacy will be administering the Pfizer vaccine which is given in 2 doses, 3 weeks apart. The Vaccine Information Sheet (VIS) and the Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the Pfizer vaccine are attached for your review. It is important that you review this information so that you can make an informed decision on whether or not you would like to be vaccinated. There are some risks involved in getting vaccinated, but we have been told that only about 10% of people had a reaction. The most common reaction was fatigue.

The Pharmacy will be sending us the vaccination consent forms either today or tomorrow. In addition, to the written form which the pharmacy prefers, there will be an option for giving consent electronically, via phone, or via e-mail. We will send you that information tomorrow but wanted you to have the VIS as soon as possible to review.

There will not be a charge to you for the vaccine. Medicare, Medicaid, or your insurance company will be billed a vaccine administration fee.

Our dates for receiving the vaccinations are as follows:

First dose: December 23, 2020

Second dose: January 132021

Our employees will be receiving the vaccine on the same dates. We do not have the option of giving the vaccine to our employees at any other dates. Ideally, this would be an option so that we could stagger giving the vaccine to avoid any staffing concerns if employees had reactions and were unable to work. We do have a staffing contingency plan in place for just such emergencies so that we can ensure that resident care needs are met.

A new vaccine with its potential risks is worrisome. But so is the thought of contracting COVID-19. Many of you have lived long enough to remember the concerns about previous vaccines. You are the generation that eradicated smallpox and polio by agreeing to those new vaccines. And you may remember the sound of a “whooping cough”, that many of us have never heard because there is now a vaccine for that disease. We are grateful to you.

Please look for additional information that we will be sending out tomorrow or Thursday!

Sincerely,

David Segal, Quinn Fusco

Administrator Director of Nursing