



Procedures for Positive Cases at Buckner Communities

Contact Tracing:

Contact Tracing helps to prevent the spread of infectious disease. In general, Contact Tracing involves identifying people who have an infectious disease (cases) and their contacts (people who may have been exposed) and working with them to interrupt disease transmission by following CDC guidelines. For COVID-19, the CDC recommends cases to isolate and contacts to quarantine at home voluntarily.

Buckner Contact Tracing procedures include:

- Interviewing people with COVID-19 to identify everyone with whom they had close contact during the time they may have been infectious,
- Notifying contacts of their potential exposure,
- Referring contacts for testing,
- Monitoring contacts for signs and symptoms of COVID-19, and
- Connecting contacts with services they might need during the self-quarantine period.

Disinfection:

After a resident or associate is identified as a Person Under Investigation (PUI), all reasonable measures are taken to disinfect any surfaces they may have come in contact with. This includes utilizing EPA-registered, hospital-grade disinfectants. Frequent environmental cleaning and disinfection of surfaces and objects touched by people around the community is also a standard practice.

The required regular use of personal protective equipment (PPE) by all associates also greatly reduces the risk of transmission and helps keep common areas disinfected.

Isolation Procedures:

Isolation Procedures are implemented for both asymptomatic and symptomatic diagnosed cases, along with those which are presumptive, are in accordance with the CDC. This is because a person who is asymptomatic positive for COVID-19 is not displaying symptoms of the virus but can still transmit the virus and pose a direct threat to the health of others.

Isolation Procedures are implemented specific to each case and continue until Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions are met per the CDC.

Each of our care levels have specific protocols in place to assist with our Isolation Procedures based on our community's floorplan. In the event a positive resident is taken to a local hospital and returns to the community, they will be quarantined in their private apartment.

Specific to our associates, Buckner has adopted the CDC's guidelines for "return to work criteria for healthcare personnel with suspected or confirmed COVID-19." Associates will not be allowed to return to work until such criteria is met.

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