



Posted 12/30/20

Amarillo Center for Skilled Care has had new staff test positive for COVID-19 since the last posted update on 12/23/20.

Staff who have tested positive have been sent home. The facility will follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the local health authority's guidelines for staff member's return to work.

Residents who have tested positive have been moved to a new hallway and separated from residents who are negative. On this specialized care hallway, a barrier has been set up at the entrance to help prevent spread of the virus. As much as is possible, staff working on the care hallway do not work in other parts of the facility.

After rigorous testing and extensive large-scale trials, the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) has granted Emergency Authorization Use (EAU) of the first COVID-19 vaccine. Long-term care facilities, like ours, will be some of the first to receive this vaccination.

We are proud to announce that we have partnered with Omnicare, a branch of CVS Pharmacies, to vaccinate both our residents and our staff.

Our resident's health and safety have always been our top priority. Throughout this pandemic we have worked tirelessly to protect those entrusted to our care. This vaccine is another step in that protection.

In the coming weeks, Omnicare will be scheduling a time to come to our facilities to administer the first dose of the vaccination.

We know you must have many questions; we will be keeping you updated as we gather more information.

Thank you for your continued trust and support as we protect the most vulnerable population during these unprecedented times.

All staff and residents are wearing appropriate personal protective equipment, per CDC guidelines.

All residents are having their temperatures checked and are being screened for COVID-19 related symptoms three times per day. Facility team members have educated residents on social

distancing practices, infection control processes, and provided information on how to self-monitor and report symptoms to a nursing team member.

Staff are screened upon arrival for their shift. They answer a series of questions about contact and travel, then a designated team member takes and records their temperature. This staff screening log is submitted to facility administration, daily.

We've provided extensive staff education. We have held staff in-services to ensure that they are aware of risk factors, including signs and symptoms of COVID-19. We have training on proper infection control protocol: including regular handwashing, correct usage and disposal of PPE, and social distancing practices.

We have enhanced disinfection and housekeeping measures. We are regularly cleaning high touchpoint and resident use areas. Housekeeping team members have been provided additional, extensive training on proper disinfection techniques, disposal of trash, and cleaning of linens.

Patient privacy is of the utmost importance. We will not disclose the name of any patients that have tested positive, nor will we disclose the name of any persons under investigation. Media Questions should be directed to our local health authority as all of our policies are within the scope of their guidance.

Questions and concerns can be answered by our Administrator, Nikki Hathaway at 806-352-8800.