

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 13, 2020
To: MSAG Residents and Staff
From: Lisa Atilano, Vice President Health Care Services
Re: Coronavirus Update

Coronavirus (COVID-19) – March 13, 2020 Update

As we move to the end of another week of the COVID-19 pandemic, we wanted to provide you with some important updates. The following information was released today from the Department of Public Health in Clinical Update II:

LA County 3/12/20

- First case in LAC identified January 22
- 32 cases in LAC to date
 - 1 death
 - 4 community transmission

California 3/11/20

- 198 Positive cases
 - 4 deaths
 - 44 community transmission

Governor Newsom's EO: Restrictions on Large Gatherings & Worker Assistance

Wednesday night, Governor Newsom issued an [Executive Order \(EO N-25-20\)](#) that directs all Californians to follow public health directives, including:

- Cancelling large gatherings with more than 250 people at least until the end of March,
- While smaller events can proceed only if the organizers can implement social distancing of 6 feet per person.
- Gatherings of individuals who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 should be limited to no more than 10 people, while also following social distancing guidelines.
- Readies the state to commandeer hotels and medical facilities to isolate and treat COVID-19 patients.

General Minimum Recommendations

Non-urgent medical appointments and outpatient therapies are strongly advised to be postponed until further notice. The shopping van service will be available by appointment only through receptionist. The Wellness Center Gym will also be available by appointment only in an effort to maintain social distancing. Anyone with signs or symptoms of a

respiratory infection, such as fever, cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat (or their spouses), please stay home, contact the clinic, and order trays.

Through this outbreak, it is recommended that all assisted living and skilled nursing facilities comply with [enhanced visitor screening procedures](#).

New Guidance for State Regulatory Agencies

Department of Public Health: The California Department of Public Health [has released AFL 20-22](#), which provides further guidance for visitation. The AFL authorizes long-term care facilities to temporarily ([until June](#)) modify visitation policies in accordance with CMS and CDC COVID-19 guidance when necessary.

Mt. San Antonio Gardens (MSAG) is following the guidance of Department of Public Health regarding visitation.

In the higher levels of care during the COVID-19 pandemic, MSAG will actively screen and restrict visitation by those who meet the following criteria:

1. Signs or symptoms of a respiratory infection, such as fever, cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat.
2. In the last 14 days, has had contact with someone with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19, or are ill with respiratory illness.
3. International travel within the last 14 days to countries with sustained community transmission.
4. Residing in a community where community-based spreads of COVID-19 is occurring.

MSAG is in a county/adjacent to a county where a COVID-19 case has occurred, and is following Department of Public Health recommendation to limit visitation (except in certain situations, such as end-of-life situations or when a visitor is essential for the resident's emotional well-being and care).

In cases when visitation is allowable, MSAG instructs visitors to limit their movement within the facility to the resident's room (e.g., reduce walking the halls, avoid going to the dining room, etc.).

MSAG will offer alternative means of communication for people who would otherwise visit, such as virtual communications (phone, video-communication, etc.).

COVID-19 Testing

Per recent CDC (Center for Disease Control) guidelines and Los Angeles County Department of Health Advisory, MSAG will not be testing residents with mild illness, and will not be sending patients to the emergency room with mild illness for testing. Testing for persons with mild illness and without risk factors for severe disease will not change clinical management. The recommendation is to provide routine home care instructions for mild viral respiratory illness.

MSAG will continue to stay in contact with our local health department and follow their recommendations, and will continue to keep you informed as we receive new information.