

Dear Family Member:

A new respiratory disease – coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) – is spreading globally, including in the United States. Although there have been no confirmed cases in Western New York, we want to protect our patients/ residents, their families, visitors and staff against the spread of infection.

Older adults and people who have severe chronic medical conditions like heart, lung or kidney disease seem to be at higher risk for more serious COVID-19 illness. For this reason, we are temporarily modifying visiting hours and procedures to protect our vulnerable population if COVID-19 begins to spread in our community.

Based on guidance from CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) and the New York State Department of Health, the following modifications to patient/resident visitation at Cuba Memorial Hospital have been implemented:

- Only immediate family members are allowed to visit between the hours of 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
- No visitors under the age of 14 years are permitted.
- All visitors should self-screen for contagious disease prior to arriving at the hospital and before accessing patient/resident care areas. See self-screen questions below:
 1. Have you experienced any of the following in the last three days?
 - Fever
 - Cough
 - Runny or stuffy nose
 - Vomiting or diarrhea
 - Shortness of breath or other respiratory symptoms
 2. Have you been exposed to or in come into contact with someone with the following in the past three days?
 - Influenza or coronavirus
 - Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV)
 - Diarrheal illness or "stomach bug"
- Visitors who are ill will be asked to leave the hospital until they are symptom free.

If the COVID-19 virus progresses in our community, it may be necessary to further limit visitation based on CMS and Department of Health guidance. Unfortunately, providing everyone with the most current information may not always be possible prior to entering the facility. Please understand that any decisions made regarding visitation restrictions are to ensure the health and safety of our population.

We will continue to monitor all patients and residents in our facility for fever, lower respiratory tract infection, cough, stuffy/runny nose, sore throat, and shortness of breath. As always, our nursing staff and medical providers will keep you informed if there are any changes with your loved one's health.

Thank you for helping to provide a safe environment for you, your family, and our community.

For more information about COVID-19, please visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-cnov/index.html>. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

N. Kerling, CEO and J. Fuller, LNHA