

January 7, 2022

COVID-19 Cases Identified in Two Staff Members

Dear Residents, Family Members, and Staff:

Two positive cases of COVID-19 have been identified in staff members at Royal Gardens. The cases were detected through routine surveillance testing and confirmed through lab-based PCR tests. Both staff members are experiencing mild symptoms and are isolating at home.

Public Health has determined that these circumstances warrant that “outbreak” protocols be declared for the Home. This is a precautionary measure, since there are **no** active cases of COVID-19 in our Home at this time. The outbreak steps that are being implemented include:

- All residents have been isolated to their rooms and will be tested per Public Health recommendations.
- The dining rooms have been closed and meals will be served directly to residents in their rooms for the time being.
- Group activities have been cancelled. Arrangements for one-on-one activities and virtual visits will be put into place.
- Visits by General Visitors have been suspended.
- Essential caregiver visitors can continue to visit, wearing full PPE, with a maximum of two (2) caregivers per resident.
- We are cohorting our staff and they are all being tested as well.

99% of our residents have received both of their COVID vaccinations, as well as the recommended “booster” (third) shot. Our staff are fully-vaccinated and many have also received their booster. As information, the booster appears to provide excellent protection against the virus, and in particular, against the Omicron variant. If you are eligible for your booster, we strongly recommend that you get that as soon as you can. At the time these cases were identified we were developing plans to give residents a fourth dose, as per the recent announcement by the Province that our residents are eligible.

We will provide updates as circumstances change and appreciate your understanding and patience as we work through this situation.

Jade Harper
Executive Director