



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Manor East Residents and Responsible Parties  
**FROM:** Carrie Davis, Administrator CAD/ms  
**DATE:** April 6, 2020  
**RE:** Infection Control Updates

Residents may have noticed a change in the staff uniform over the weekend. This is in response to changes in guidance from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). All staff members working in Manor East will now be wearing a mask as an added barrier even when there are no individuals with active signs, symptoms, or diagnosis on the unit. (At this time the recommendation has not been extended to independent living.) The newest guidance goes further to recommend the resident cover their face when staff is in their room. This can be done with something as simple as a tissue. In some instances, residents who come out of their rooms, are to wear a non-medical face covering.

We recently had a volunteer reach out about making non-medical masks and we are hoping they will be able to help supply some for our residents. We have also requested assistance making headbands that staff can wear with buttons to hold their masks in place, avoiding prolonged friction on the ears. If you are interested in helping with any of these efforts, please reach out to Sherry Halphen, Volunteer Coordinator, at 569-4282 or [Sherry.Halphen@covenantwoods.com](mailto:Sherry.Halphen@covenantwoods.com).

Many of you have seen on the news or in the paper the growing number of cases in the Richmond area. While we do not have any cases on campus at this time, nor do we have anyone under suspicion, we are strictly following our infection control guidelines. We also continue regular contact with the Local Health Department to discuss ways we may implement new guidance in the daily routine of residents without causing fear or anxiety. Should we have a resident or staff member diagnosed with COVID-19, our intent is to notify anyone who may have been exposed as well as letting our residents and responsible parties know of the occurrence and any changes initiated.

Responsible Parties of Manor East residents are encouraged to submit their email address to [communications@covenantwoods.com](mailto:communications@covenantwoods.com) as we will be using that distribution list to assist with updates during this COVID-19 pandemic. Our written communications are also posted on our website for quick reference.

This is a very unprecedented situation and difficult for our residents, family members, and staff. Please know we are making every effort to keep you informed of changes as they occur. Our protocol changes are often in response to new guidance, our goal is to put into action the change and then send out an update. If you have questions or suggestions we ask you contact Lauren Duval, Social Worker at 569-4208 or [lauren.duval@covenantwoods.com](mailto:lauren.duval@covenantwoods.com). You may also use the Communications email address or email me directly at [CDavis@covenantwoods.com](mailto:CDavis@covenantwoods.com). We will route questions and suggestions to the most appropriate person on staff to address. For clinical questions you may always continue to contact the Charge Nurse or Director of Nursing.

CAD/ms