

## Helen Purcell

### Policies and Procedures

**Department: Nursing**

Subject: Admission Policy During COVID-19 Pandemic

Date: 5/19/20

Revised: 3/23/23

Policy Effective Date: **Immediately**

#### **Admission to Helen Purcell**

Prior to admission, the following individuals - Executive Director, Director of Resident Health, Medical Director, and the nursing staff will review the medical records of the prospective resident and collectively, it will be decided if the Helen Purcell Home would be an appropriate living arrangement for the individual. Helen Purcell is following the policies of the Ohio Department of Health, and of the Center for Disease Control, the recommendations of the Muskingum County Department of Health, and our Medical Director as they relate to Residential Care Facilities.

#### **The following procedures are to be followed:**

1. Prior to admission of a new resident to the Helen Purcell Home, the appropriate staff will review the medical records of the individual.
2. If it is determined that the Helen Purcell Home would be an appropriate living arrangement for the individual, the individual will be admitted if the following guidelines can be met:
  - The new resident does not display any of the following symptoms: ***: fever  $\geq$  99.0, new cough or worsening of chronic cough, or difficulty breathing (increased oxygen requirements or increases frequency of nebulizer treatments may surrogate symptoms for shortness of breath; Atypical Signs and Symptoms: diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting, confusion or change in mental status (if noted check pulse oximetry to determine if increased oxygen is needed), exacerbations of congestive heart failure or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, chest pain, sore throat, runny nose, muscle/body aches, headache or new loss of taste or smell, chills with or without shivering, generalized weakness, unusual rashes such as rash over toes.***

- The new resident has not been in contact with any persons with a confirmed COVID-19.
  - All new residents regardless of vaccination status will have a rapid molecular COVID-19 test through Genesis Hospital on the day of admission.
  - All new residents are encouraged to have the COVID-19 vaccine as well as the most current booster when made available to them unless a resident has an exemption.
  - All new and readmission residents will be evaluated on case-by-case basis to determine if a 10-day quarantine will be necessary based on exposure risk and vaccination status.
  - New residents that are not up to date must consent to be quarantined until a series of 3 COVID-19 tests are completed, the first test will be the day of admission and, if negative, again 48 hours after the first negative test and, if negative, again 48 hours after the second negative test. This will typically be at day 1, day 3, and day 5. Up to date with your COVID-19 vaccines refers to when you have received all doses in the primary series and the most recent booster recommended for you, when eligible.
  - If the resident would develop any signs of COVID-19 resident will remain in quarantine until:
    - At least 1 day (24 hours) has passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medication and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
    - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
3. Individuals with a history of extreme wandering, disruptive behavior, or combative behavior will not be admitted, unless it is determined that the staff can manage the behavior of these individuals.
  4. After admission, resident's health status will be assessed quarterly (see Assessment Policy).
  5. Per RCF Rule 3701-17-57, we shall not admit or retain any non-hospice individual who:
    - Is bedridden with limited potential for movement
    - Has stage 3 or 4 pressure ulcer(s)
    - Requires physical or chemical restraints
    - Has a complex medical condition that requires constant monitoring and adjustments.
    - Requires over 8 hours of skilled nursing care per day, or 40 hours of skilled nursing care per week.

## Resident Admission Protocols during active COVID in facility

The following procedures will be followed:

1. Individuals that are up to date may be admitted 5 days after the COVID-19 has been confirmed without being quarantined. Up to date with your COVID-19 vaccines refers to when you have received all doses in the primary series and all boosters recommended for you, when eligible.
2. Individuals who are not up to date may be admitted 5 days after the COVID-19 case was confirmed but will be placed under quarantine for a minimum 10 days.
3. If during the 5-day waiting period, a new case of COVID-19 is confirmed then the 5-day waiting period will restart.

All newly admitted residents will sign a waiver advising them that there is always the potential for a COVID-19 case that has not yet been identified.

***\*\*Helen Purcell follows the policies & recommendations of the Ohio Department of Health, the Center for Disease Control, our local Health Department and our Medical Director as they relate to Residential Care Facilities\*\****