IN RE:

Brighton Gardens of Florham Park (NJ60A001) : EMERGENCY CURTAILMENT
Alaris Health at Belgrove (NJ11952) : OF ADMISSIONS ORDER
The Canterbury At Cedar Grove Care & Rehabilitation (NJ60729) :
Family Of Caring Healthcare At Montclair (NJ60719) :
Laurel Brook Rehabilitation And Healthcare Center (NJ03015) :
St. Joseph's Seniors' Home Nursing Center :
& Assisted Living (NJ50C000, NJ61223) :

TO: All Administrators

Pursuant to Executive Order 103, Governor Philip D. Murphy declared the existence of a Public Health Emergency, pursuant to the Emergency Health Powers Act, N.J.S.A. 26:13-1 et. al., and a State of Emergency, pursuant to the Disaster Control Act, in the State of New Jersey for COVID-19, which is a novel coronavirus first identified in China, spread to multiple other countries, including the United States, and has been identified in New Jersey. Under the declared health emergency, the Department is empowered, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:13-8(a), “[t]o close, direct and compel the evacuation of, or to decontaminate or cause to be decontaminated, any facility of which there is reasonable cause to believe that it may endanger the public health.” Pursuant to the above-referenced authority, on March 19, 2020, the Department of Health (Department), verbally directed the emergency curtailment of admissions to the above-referenced facilities.
Emergency Curtailment of Admissions Order
March 20, 2020
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Pursuant to Executive Order 103, the spread of COVID-19 within New Jersey constitutes an imminent public health hazard that threatens and presently endangers the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of one or more municipalities or counties of the State.

Pursuant to Executive Order 103, it shall be the duty of every person or entity in this State or doing business in this State to cooperate fully with the State Director of Emergency Management and the Commissioner of the Department of Health in all matters concerning this state of emergency.

EMERGENCY CURTAILMENT OF ADMISSIONS ORDER:

Pursuant to the above-referenced authority, the Department hereby memorializes the Emergency Curtailment of Admissions Order as follows:

• The facility shall remain closed to new admissions, except readmissions, until further notice from the Department;

• The date and time this Emergency Curtailment of Admissions Order was effective was immediately upon your notification by telephone on March 19, 2020;

• The terms and conditions of the curtailment of admissions are the following:
  o The facility shall curtail all new admissions, except readmissions;
  o The basis upon which the curtailment order is justified is the identification of residents who have either confirmed or pending cases of COVID-19 or an outbreak of illness of multiple residents. These steps are necessary to protect the vulnerable population of individuals at long-term care facilities from the serious and life-threatening risks of contracting COVID-19;
  o The facility shall retain the services of a Board-Certified infectious disease physician as a consultant, who shall assess the status of infectious disease at the facility, assure proper infection control measures are implemented and ensure monitoring of all residents at an interval instructed by the Department’s Communicable Disease Service (CDS). The consultant must visit the facility at least once and must be available for telephone consultation and follow up visits as needed. The facility may utilize its own Board-Certified infectious disease physician if it has one;
  o The facility shall comply with any terminal cleaning requirements imposed by the Department;
  o In addition, the facility shall implement the following mitigation strategies:
    • Review its outbreak response plan
    • Monitor its Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) supplies, re-educate staff on how to use PPE and be prepared for shortages if surge occurs
- Consider implementing universal use of facemasks for healthcare personnel while in the facility
- Follow all current CMS guidance regarding the restriction of visitors and non-essential healthcare personnel, except in certain compassionate-care situations
- STOP current communal dining and all group activities, such as internal and external group activities
- Implement active screening of residents and staff for fever and respiratory symptoms. Remember that older adults may manifest symptoms of infection differently and that other symptomology should also be assessed daily at minimum. Vital signs of residents should be taken, including heart rate, blood pressure, temperature, pain and pulse oximetry. The facility staff should have a heightened awareness for any change in baseline in residents.
- Encourage residents to remain in their rooms. If multiple cases are present, restrict residents (to the extent possible) to their rooms except for medically necessary purposes
- Mask all residents (who can tolerate masks) who are symptomatic when providing direct care; if masks are limited or not tolerated, use of a tissue to cover the nose and mouth is appropriate.
- Adhere to internal environmental cleaning protocols to ensure appropriate measures are being taken to clean and disinfect, where appropriate including high-touch surfaces and all shared medical equipment (e.g., lifts, blood pressure cuffs, medication carts). Consider increasing the frequency of cleaning in the facility.
- Quarantine and monitor exposed contacts, including healthcare workers and roommates.
- For other specific mitigation strategies, see page eight of the attached document, Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission

This emergency order shall remain in effect until the Department lifts the order. Please confer with your local health officer for further actions that may be necessary.

**RIGHT TO HEARING:**

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:13-8(a)(2), the facility has the right to request a hearing regarding the Emergency Curtailment of Admissions Order before the New Jersey Superior Court.

**OTHER REMEDIES:**

Failure to comply with this Emergency Curtailment of Admissions Order may result in the imposition of penalties and/or other applicable remedies.
Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for your anticipated cooperation. If you have any questions regarding this order, please contact Lisa King in the Office of Program Compliance at (609) 376-7890. For other questions, please contact the New Jersey Coronavirus and Poison Center Hotline at (800) 222-1222. For COVID-19 updates, please continue to check the Department’s website for routinely updated information (https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncoiv.shtml).

Lisa King, Program Manager
Office of Program Compliance
Division of Certificate of Need and Licensing

DATE: March 20, 2020
REGULAR AND CERTIFIED MAIL,
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED
E-MAIL

Enclosure
c. Service List