

GES Bulletin

25 February 2022

I am reaching out to share that one of our Greenwoods Residents has tested positive for COVID-19. Transmission was outside of Greenwoods and the individual is resting in their room. We are not in an outbreak but are continuing with the enhanced surveillance and caring for Residents in their rooms if we have any concerns. Barb or the Nurse in Charge will contact families if we have any concerns regarding a resident.

The team as usual has stepped up and all care and services are being delivered. As always, I have such great gratitude for our staff's commitment and resilience.

There are no changes to the visiting protocols. If you are coming in to visit, please continue to be diligent with your self-screening and stay at home if you are feeling at all unwell. Omicron continues to circulate widely in the community.

I understand that this development may cause concern and anxiety. Please know that we are working closely with Island Health and are confident in a thorough response to this situation. We are at a different phase in this pandemic. Given the prevalence of the Omicron variant it is expected that we will see exposure. What has been observed in facilities that have had cases is that the layers of protection we have, including vaccination and personal protective equipment, are working to protect from severe illness. The proportion of residents and patients experiencing severe outcomes due to COVID-19 is significantly less than during previous waves, especially in the context of cases in higher risk settings, such as long-term care.

While an outbreak has not been declared, we are taking a similar approach to managing the situation. We are:

- Closely monitoring residents and staff for symptoms;
- Placing residents on precautions at the first sign of illness;
- Remaining diligent in applying all best practices and layers of protection;
- Enhancing cleaning and disinfecting practices of shared items and high-touch surfaces;
- Pausing group activities.

We will continue to keep you updated as new information is available. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by email, at 250 537 5561 ext 222 or on my cell 250 538 7828.

Kind regards
Aletha