



South Peninsula Hospital  
Long Term Care  
4300 Bartlett Street  
Homer, AK 99603  
(907) 235-0233

## Long Term Care

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Dear Resident, Family Member, and/or Legal Representatives:

August 14, 2021

We have written recently to inform you of COVID-positive employees and updates. Late yesterday, and again this afternoon we received notice of two more COVID+ employees in Long Term Care.

As ever, our regulations consider one or more persons (whether staff or resident) to be an “outbreak.” Since the beginning of the Delta variant spike, we have seen positive tests in our healthcare workforce in Long Term Care, just as we have seen in the general population across Alaska.

At the recommendation of State Epidemiology and our Medical Director, the following is effective until further notice:

- Residents will quarantine in their rooms. Quarantine will continue until State Epidemiology relaxes recommendations and all residents have negative COVID tests for 7-14 days.
- Family visitation will only be acceptable for a resident at end of life.
- Communal dining will end for a period of at least one week; residents will be assisted with meals in their rooms.
- All residents *and* staff will be routinely COVID-tested twice weekly, regardless of vaccine status, until further notice.

In Alaska and nationally, we are clearly in another very serious COVID outbreak that has proven to be as virulent as the prior and worse in many regards. In our state, Long Term Care and Assisted Living facilities are seeing many new cases, often in their resident population. The COVID positivity rates on the Kenai Peninsula Borough are extremely high. Our infection prevention practices have kept our residents safe and we hope to remain COVID-free in our resident population.

We will keep you informed as we move through the next several days. Each new outbreak puts us into a lockdown-type of strategy for 7 to 14 days. We must be vigilant to keep our resident’s safe. Thank you for your consideration and observance of our plans. You may direct questions to Rachael Kincaid or Dr. Johnson by calling our main number (as below). Be well, stay safe, wear a mask and be vaccinated.

With gratitude for our families;

Barbara L. Bigelow, LTC Administrator  
907.821.1990

c: Rachael Kincaid, DNP, Director of Nursing (907.235.0230)  
Teresa Johnson, MD, Medical Director (907.235.0230)  
SPH Public Website

**Modes of Communication for this publication: SPH website and email**

