



TO: Residents and Family Members of Plymouth Harborside Healthcare
FROM: Andrew Mbugua, Administrator
DATE: February 16, 2022
RE: Limitations on Admissions

On Wednesday, February 15th, Plymouth Harborside Healthcare was notified by the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) in accordance with an order issued by the Department of Public Health on November 5th and 13th entitled “Implementation of Order of the Commissioner of Public Health Regarding Control of COVID-19 in Long-Term Care Facilities” and updated guidance issued on January 6, 2022, there will be a limitation on admissions to Plymouth Harborside Healthcare. Plymouth Harborside Healthcare as well as 19 (as of 2/16/2022) other nursing facilities throughout the Commonwealth are affected by a limitation on admissions.

“The Department’s findings include but are not limited to: Failure to comply with applicable testing policies: The Department has determined the Facility has failed to comply with the surveillance testing requirements set forth in Department guidance and MassHealth bulletin for two or more most recent consecutive testing periods.”

For the testing period ending February 3, 2022, the facility tested less than 90% of staff utilizing a PCR test. The facility did utilize the BinaxNow rapid antigen testing, however, did not achieve the 90% or more threshold.

For the period ending February 10, 2022, the facility achieved greater than 91% testing threshold and was in compliance, however, reported the data late which created a second consecutive week of non-compliance. The limitation on admissions will be removed once the facility has achieved two consecutive surveillance testing periods in compliance.

Additional resources available include our daily and weekly COVID19 dashboard which can be located at www.nextstephc.com “Coping During COVID” link.

We are committed and will continue our diligence with infection control protocols, outbreak testing, and the necessary steps to ensure the safety of our residents and staff. Our infection control efforts include but are not limited to continuous and ongoing training for our employees, appropriate supply levels of PPE, and independent infection control audits. We will continue working with EOHHS and DPH to submit a plan of correction (POC) and work collaboratively.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me directly.

