

March 2020

Dear Facility Director,

The Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak continues to evolve rapidly, both globally and locally. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports confirmed cases in the United States, most of which are travel-related and many are due to person-to-person spread. In our service area, there are presumptive positive cases in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia.

Capital Caring Health takes the health and well-being of our patients and their families very seriously. In an effort to reduce potential exposure, we are taking the following precautions. Please review this information carefully as it pertains to services provided by Capital Caring Health staff to patients residing at your facility.

Capital Caring Health protocols in response to COVID-19:

Capital Caring Health Physician, Nurse Practitioner, Nurse Facility Visits

- Upon arrival to facilities, the Capital Caring Health Medical Team will:
 - Consult with a facility nurse before seeing the patient.
 - Conduct a verbal COVID-19 screening in conjunction with the facility staff to determine if patients have:
 - Had international travel within the last 14 days.
 - Fever, cough or sore throat.
 - Have had contact with someone under investigation for coronavirus (COVID-19) in the last 14 days.
 - If the COVID-19 screen is positive, Capital Caring Health staff will utilize telephone or virtual visits until further notice.

Chaplain, Grief Counselor and Social Worker Facility Visits

- In most cases, Chaplain, Grief Counselor and Social Worker visits will be conducted by telephone or virtually, via Skype or Zoom (depending on the technology available).
- If there is an urgent need for an on-site visit, the Facility Director should call 703-538-2066.

Intake and Referral

- Capital Caring Health is following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines; all patients are being screened for COVID-19 risk factors prior to admission to any of our services.
- According to the latest update from CMS in conjunction with CDC, patients with known or suspected COVID-19 can be visited safely if proper equipment is used.
- Capital Caring Health will admit COVID-19 patients (homecare and GIP) who qualify for hospice care. *We are finalizing protocols for patients with COVID-19 who may need care at an inpatient center.*

Volunteer Services

- All in-person volunteer services are suspended until further notice.
- Patients at your facility will continue to receive “tuck-in” calls for Capital Caring Health volunteers.

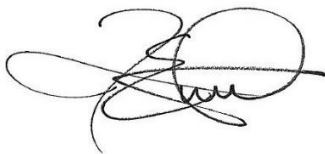
Staying Informed

We are continuing to monitor this rapidly evolving situation, and our team has developed a comprehensive response plan to help maintain the safety and well-being of our employee, patients, families and volunteers.

We will continue to provide updates as the situation evolves. Please refer to the resources below for additional information.

COVID-19 Resources

- CDC Website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- [CDC FAQ for additional information about COVID-19](#)
- Email questions about Capital Caring Health protocols related to COVID-19 and to: covid19@capitalcaring.org



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Capital Caring Health