

INFORMATION SHEET: Updated Infection Prevention and Control Measures for Outbreaks at Actionmarguerite (Summer 2025)

The following information sheet outlines changes that will take effect July 1, 2025 which are designed to protect physical, emotional, and spiritual wellbeing while minimizing unnecessary restrictions. Our goal is to use the fewest outbreak measures, for the shortest time, and only when truly necessary to limit restrictions and isolation as much as possible.

What's **Not** Changing when an outbreak is declared

- **Our commitment to safety:** We are committed to continued focus on preventing infections using best practices.
- **Prompt response:** We will respond to suspected outbreaks promptly.
- **Communication:** We will post notices at entrances when an outbreak is declared and on a new Outbreak Status page on our website.
- **Staying home if sick:** Residents stay in their rooms when ill; timeframe varies by illness.
- **Mask-friendly environment:** Masks and protective gear remain available.
- **Informed choices:** You'll be kept informed to make the best decisions to protect yourself and others.
- **Enhanced cleaning:** Extra housekeeping in affected areas.
- **Resident choice:** Doors can stay open or closed unless infection type requires otherwise.
- **Activities for well residents:** Continue as planned on the units.
- **1:1 activities:** Offered to residents who are ill when possible and desired.
- **Health appointments:** Continue for residents who are ill if they're able, with masking and hand hygiene.
- **Support available:** Infection prevention and control professionals and nurses are here to help.

What **IS** Changing when an outbreak is declared

- **Communication:** We will no longer be sending outbreak messages through the email distribution list. Instead, you will find a table on our website with information about the status of outbreaks at Actionmarguerite. New outbreaks will be posted as soon as they are declared, and the web page will be updated every Thursday before 6 pm.
- **Visitor labels removed:** We will no longer be referring to visitors as 'essential' visitors or 'general' visitors. While we will continue to ask families to limit the number of people visiting on the unit during outbreaks to 2 at a time to minimize traffic that can contribute to spread, we will not ask families to limit who visits.
- **Restricting movement:** Residents who are not ill or isolating from others will no longer be asked to stay on their unit.

- **Activities expanded:** Activities will be offered both on and off the unit for residents who are well.
- **Appointments continue:** Appointments within the home such as hairdresser appointments or exercise/gym class will continue for those who are well, regardless of whether their room is in an area affected by an outbreak.
- **Flexible measures:** Additional restrictions may be put in place only if a higher-risk situation arises.

How You Can Help

We know that the most successful infection and prevention measures include:

- Washing and sanitizing your hands often, particularly when coming into the home, before and after assisting someone, e.g., pushing their wheelchair or helping with a meal, as well as after touching surfaces such as handrails, and elevator buttons.
- Covering your cough using the inside of your arm.
- Regular cleaning and disinfection of shared spaces.
- Staying home when you're sick and deferring your visit until you are well.
- Keeping vaccinations up to date and getting immunized every year.
- When the person you are visiting is ill, we ask that you visit in their room. Please talk to your nurse or infection prevention professional about recommended precautions so you can make the decision that is right for you and your loved one.