

January 18, 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians and Caretakers,

I am sure we can all agree that this past year has been extremely difficult on so many levels and the pandemic has persisted far beyond any of the timeframes we anticipated & hoped. With that being said, we were pleased to receive notification that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) had approved emergency authorization of a COVID-19 vaccine, and we are hopeful that the vaccine will be a turning point in the fight against COVID-19.

Over the past couple of months McGuire Memorial has been working diligently to partner with the Federal Pharmacy Partnership Program in order to offer the vaccine to those who elect this option. The rollout of the vaccines has not been at the pace that we had wished; however, we are anticipating that we will be holding a vaccine clinic in the very near future for our residents and staff.

The vaccine has gone through federal testing and clinical trials to ensure it meets the highest safety standards. The health and safety of McGuire Memorial's residents and staff is always top priority, and McGuire Memorial is confident this vaccine is a much better option than the risk of contracting the virus.

At this time, McGuire Memorial has not been informed as to which vaccine will be received. Please read the enclosed fact sheets for both the Pfizer-BioNTech and/or Moderna vaccine. Potential side effects are listed on the fact sheet, and you will find that these side effects are similar to the potential side effects of a flu shot. The vaccine requires two doses, and the second does will be given approximately 21 to 28 days after the first dose. Our nursing staff are available should you have any questions.

McGuire Memorial will require your written consent for the pharmacy to administer the vaccine to your loved one. Please sign the enclosed consent form and return in the postage paid envelope IMMEDIATELY.

We will continue to take all necessary precautions in accordance to the CDC and Department of Health after the vaccine is administered, including the wearing of personal protection equipment and conducting regular testing, to ensure the safety of the residents and staff.

I understand that this has been a long and uncertain journey for everyone, and we are still months away before we will begin to see things return to some semblance of normalcy. I want to thank you for your patience and understanding throughout this whole ordeal, and I ask that you continue to be patient a little while longer as we work through the vaccination rollouts in an effort to get back to the "normalcy" we all yearn to experience again!

God Bless!



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