

April 1, 2022

Communiqué

COVID-19 Booster

On March 29, 2022, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration announced that the agency “authorized a second booster dose of either the Pfizer-BioNTech or the Moderna COVID-19 vaccines for older people and certain immuno-compromised individuals.” You may be asking what this means. To answer that, it is important to distinguish between authorization and recommendation.

At this time, there is clear evidence that the first booster or 3rd dose of vaccine is critically important. The first booster will provide additional protection against severe illness and it is strongly recommended for everyone living or working here at Willow Valley Communities.

The second booster, or 4th dose of vaccine, “could help increase protection levels.” Currently, there is no clear recommendation, from the FDA or CDC, to accept this dose of vaccine. Instead, the vaccine has simply been made available to those that are at a “higher risk” for severe outcomes from COVID-19 illness.

It is important to know that the FDA advisory committee is scheduled to meet on April 6, 2022. At this meeting they will discuss the COVID-19 vaccine booster doses. They are expected to make an announcement that will include an official recommendation for the beginning of cold and flu season in the fall of 2022. WVC will review the recommendations that emerge from the meeting next week, and will then develop an action plan for vaccine availability here on campus.

Research supports that the COVID-19 vaccine is effective. As with many vaccines, the protection changes over time; this is why booster doses of vaccine are important. If there is a recommendation for a booster dose in the fall, when COVID-19 cases may again rise, it will be very important to receive a well-timed dose to maximize protection against COVID-19 illness. Timing is the key to successful protection.

The COVID-19 vaccine booster clinic scheduled on April 29, 2022, is for primarily first booster doses. WVC will revise the booster clinic schedule after consideration of the recommendation from the advisory panel next week.

Suspension of the COVID-19 Advisory

Since April 2020, near the start of the pandemic, Willow Valley Communities has used the COVID-19 Advisory to notify Residents of new Resident and Team Member COVID cases, as well as COVID-attributed deaths within our Communities. Initially, the Advisory was printed and distributed in paper form; beginning in November 2021, Advisories were posted digitally on the WVC website.

Effective April 1, 2022, Willow Valley Communities will suspend publishing the COVID-19 Advisory. As new cases have significantly diminished among Residents and Team Members, so, too, has the need to produce and publish this information each week. In the event that case counts at Willow Valley Communities rise significantly, we would resume producing the Advisory.

Denny — Dennis Greist, President

(over please)

Easter Sunday, April 17: Dining Information

Easter is quickly approaching and Culinary Services is pleased to offer a number of dining options for you to enjoy. Registration for the Easter meal is required to dine at the Lakes and North dining venues.

Dining Times at Lakes and North
11:30 AM – 2:00 PM – Dine-In
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM – To-Go Meals

Please visit the host station at the community you wish to dine and fill out the Easter Registration form providing your preference to dine-in or pick up a To-Go meal. For dine-in requests, please provide your dining room preference, number in your party, and a preferred dining time.

- Please note **this is not a reservation**, but it will allow us to pre-plan to minimize wait times.
- If you are dining with other Residents, only one person from your party should provide the information for the entire party to avoid any confusion.
- Whether you choose to dine in or pick up a meal To-Go, consider doing so early or later in the meal period to avoid large crowds.

While we cannot accommodate Guests in our dining rooms at this time, Residents may choose to purchase up to five To-Go meals for guests who may be visiting. Menus may be picked up at the host station in advance of the holiday.

Four Seasons will be available for reservations from 11:30 AM – 2:00 PM. Please call 717.464.8415 to make a reservation. The To-Go meal process at Four Seasons remains the same. Please return menus by 10:00 AM.

Local Table will serve the Easter meal from 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM, by reservation only. You can make a reservation via the Open Table tab on the Resident Intranet or by calling the Clubhouse Concierge at 717.464.7805.

Christine— Christine Fry, Culinary Services Manager, Manor Campus

Mark— Mark Siems, Culinary Services Manager, Lakes Campus