



**To: Timbercrest Community**  
**From: Christy Huiras, COO**  
**Date: September 29, 2021**  
**RE: Regulatory Update (COVID) and Flu Shots**

### **REGULATORY UPDATE**

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) recently issued new guidance on COVID-19 testing requirements for long term care facilities following an identified COVID-19 positive case. These changes permit Timbercrest to move away from a routine broad-based (facility-wide) approach of testing to a focused approach when we are able to identify close contacts of a positive COVID-19 individual. Moving to this approach provides greater opportunity for indoor visits, group activities and excursions from campus to continue.

Tomorrow, Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, we will make this change and, at the same time, open up again for indoor family visits and group activities, and excursions (leaves from campus) are able to resume as well. Please be patient with employees as they adjust, yet again, and restart group activities.

Be reminded, all of the core principles of infection control remain in place (face masks when leaving your room or receiving care from staff, frequent handwashing, and maintaining a safe distance of 6 feet or more).

With these changes, residents will not be COVID tested tomorrow (Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup>) but the flu vaccine clinic will continue as planned (see below).

### **FLU SHOTS**

The annual flu vaccine clinic will be held in the Assembly Room tomorrow afternoon (Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup>) for those residents wanting to receive a flu shot. Listen for your wing to be announced. Let your nurse know if you have a schedule conflict to make alternate arrangements.

Please bring your Medicare and health insurance cards with you and wear short sleeves to make it easier to administer the shot.