



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES
ANCORA PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL
301 SPRING GARDEN ROAD
ANCORA, NEW JERSEY 08037-9699
(609) 561-1700

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

JUDITH M. PERSICHILLI
Commissioner

DEBORAH HARTEL
Deputy Commissioner

JOSEPH CANALE
Acting Chief Executive Officer

March 12, 2020

Dear Families and Friends of Our Patients:

It is our mission to maintain a safe and healthy environment on behalf of our patients and staff. We have proactively taken the following measures in order to protect our patients and staff and to help prevent the spread of diseases like COVID-19 (coronavirus):

- Increased cleaning and sanitizing frequency
- Screening of all employees who have traveled to countries identified by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
- Increased education on hand hygiene and cough etiquette
- Posted educational materials on COVID-19
- Increased monitoring of at-risk patients
- Restriction of off-grounds patient activities

In addition, effective immediately, our hospital will no longer allow visitors until further notice.

We are sharing the following information from the CDC regarding the precautions to avoid the spread of germs:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Stay home when you are sick except to go to medical care
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds

Sincerely,

Joseph Canale
Acting Chief Executive Officer



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Joseph Canale
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Ancora Psychiatric Hospital
301 Spring Garden Road
Ancora, NJ 08037

NOTICE

PATIENT ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OF THE HOSPITAL

- 1) Until further notice, all brief visits except for brief visits for discharge planning purposes, are not allowed. This includes day passes with patient's family and friends.
- 2) Brief visits for discharge planning purposes will proceed at the discretion of the CEO, the Medical/ Clinical Director, and the Chief of Medicine. The decision to proceed will be made based on the clinical necessity of the visit, the patient's physical condition, and the current state of the COVID-19 outbreak in the location of the proposed brief visit.
- 3) Staff (or provider) accompanied community visits for discharge planning purposes will proceed at the discretion of the CEO, the Medical/ Clinical Director, and the Chief of Medicine. This decision will be made based on the clinical necessity of the visit, the patient's physical condition, and the current state of the COVID-19 outbreak in the location of the proposed brief visit.
- 4) Staff accompanied community visits with patients for community reintegration (shopping, dining etc.) or recreational purposes are cancelled until further notice.
- 5) Staff accompanied medical visits for urgent and emergent medical purposes are allowed. Questions about whether a medical visit is urgent should be resolved by the Chief of Medicine in consultation with the Medical/ Clinical Director, if necessary. Community visits for electroconvulsive therapy, dialysis, and other ongoing and necessary procedures are permitted. All elective medical visits should be postponed.