

Situation Guide: Informing a Resident of a positive COVID-19 result

This guide has been designed to be used by the resident’s physician, or the physician’s delegate (with appropriate modifications to wording). This guide requires the physician (or delegate) to include resident- or home-specific information in sections highlighted by “[...]”.

This guide also assumes that this discussion is taking place **prior to** the resident’s physician proposing a change in treatment plan based on the diagnosis. As such, there is no change in the treatment plan being discussed here, unless the resident wants to withdraw consent from the current treatment plan.

	Goal	Possible Wording
INFORM	1 To relay a positive COVID-19 diagnosis to the resident(delegated)	<i>“Your physician has asked that I inform you of [...]</i>
	2 To inform the resident of relevant information relating to their health status	<i>“We will need to take safety measures for isolation, which means.....”</i>
VERIFY INFORMATION	3 Inform the resident of any aspects of the current treatment plan related to transfer for acute care	<i>“I don’t want to alarm you, but I it’s important that we know what you would want. The current plan includes end-of-life care in the home. I just want to make sure that’s your understanding as well.”</i> Or <i>“I don’t mean to alarm you, but it’s important that we know what you would want. If your condition changes we will contact the physician for a recommendation, and then come to you for consent. If it is an emergency, we will transfer you to the hospital immediately. I just want to make sure that you are aware.” [If the resident does not have a DNR in place, inform them of this.]</i>
	4 To discuss previously expressed wishes and identify most current	<i>“I see here that you have said in the past that[...] ... Is that still the case?”</i>
Pause and answer the Resident’s questions		

