



COVID-19 Agency Update
May 27, 2020

The Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) Healthcare Center (HCC) currently has one Veteran Patient in the HCC Isolation Unit and although improving, has serious underlying pre-existing medical conditions so their status remains guarded. A second Veteran Patient who was recently in the Isolation Unit remains in a community based Hospital for Non-COVID related acute care treatment. No Veteran Patients have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past twenty-two days.

One Veteran Resident remains in the Residential Facility Isolation Unit after testing positive a second time for COVID-19. One additional Veteran Resident was admitted to the Isolation Unit for protective monitoring after returning from long-term community based care for non-COVID conditions. There are currently four Veteran Residents who recovered from COVID-19 in physical therapy/rehabilitation programs with one expected to return to the Residential program this week.

Today, with the support of the CT Department of Public Health, the DVA conducted COVID test swabbing of every Veteran Patient in the HCC, the results of which are expected within the next twenty-four hours. This full spectrum testing, along with the testing of full wings of the DVA Residential Facility over the next few weeks, will allow the DVA to quickly identify any non-symptomatic Veteran Patients and Residents and move them to our respective Isolation Units accordingly.

To date, the DVA has tested two hundred and sixteen Veteran Residents and Patients (many tested multiple times) for COVID-19 with twenty-four testing positive. Note that results for the eighty-three Veteran Patients tested today are pending and that more than half of these Veterans previously tested negative for the virus. Of the twenty-four Veteran Residents and Patients who tested positive, to date, eighteen have recovered and two Veterans who tested COVID-19 positive are currently in the HCC and Residential Isolation Units on our Campus in various stages of recovery. One Veteran Patient remains in a community based Hospital. One Veteran Resident and two Veteran Patients with serious pre-existing medical conditions have passed away from COVID-19. Four DVA staff members have tested positive for COVID-19, two of which have recovered and returned to work consistent with CDC guidelines.

The DVA continues to facilitate the testing of staff and conducts daily screenings of all Staff and Veterans along with adherence to DVA Enhanced Safety and Health COVID-19 Protocols which are available, along with modifications and other important information, at: <https://portal.ct.gov/DVA/Pages/DVA-COVID-19-Updates>.