



COVID-19 Agency Update
April 30, 2020

The Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) Healthcare Center (HCC) currently has four Veteran Patients who tested COVID-19 positive earlier this week and are in our HCC Isolation Unit. The DVA tested twenty-nine other Veteran Patients, including the fifteen residing in the same HCC wing as the first COVID-19 HCC patient, all of which tested negative for the virus. Today one Veteran patient with underlying high risk medical conditions was transferred to the Federal VA Medical Center at West Haven, his test results are pending.

The DVA Residential Program had one Veteran Resident test positive for the virus three days ago, this is the only positive test in the Residential Program during the previous two weeks. There are currently two Veteran Residents in our Residential Facility Isolation Unit who are COVID-19 positive and one Veteran who presented as symptomatic during a daily screening and, while he tested negative for the virus, he is being monitored in the Isolation Unit out of an abundance of caution. Yesterday a Veteran Resident was transferred from the Isolation Unit to a community based hospital for COVID-19 related complications. Four Veteran Residents, who recovered from COVID-19, remain in physical therapy/rehabilitation programs.

To date, the DVA has tested seventy-eight individual Veteran Residents and Patients (some tested multiple times) for COVID-19 with a total of twenty testing positive for the virus of which, eleven have recovered and seven are currently in the HCC and Residential Isolation Units on our Campus. One Veteran remains in a community based hospital and one Veteran Resident passed away last week while in a community based hospital.

In addition to the DVA's rigorous COVID-19 signs and symptoms screening process, we continue to expand our testing capacity for Veteran Residents and Patients. The DVA continues to follow the DVA Enhanced Safety and Health COVID-19 Protocols which are reviewed daily and adjusted based on CDC and Public Health directives, guidance and best practices. The DVA COVID-19 Health and Safety protocols, which were updated today, are available, along with other important information, at: <https://portal.ct.gov/DVA/Pages/DVA-COVID-19-Updates>