



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
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Thomas J. Saadi
Commissioner

COVID-19 Agency Update
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The Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) Healthcare Center (HCC) has no Veteran Patients in the HCC Isolation Recovery Unit and no additional Veteran Patients have tested positive for COVID-19 in nearly six weeks. One Veteran Patient, who previously tested positive for COVID-19, did re-test positive for the virus two weeks ago and has since recovered and returned to the HCC from a community based hospital where he was receiving non-COVID-19 acute care.

In the DVA Residential Facility, we have been conducting testing of each Residential wing and early last week one Veteran Resident tested positive for COVID-19. This Veteran was immediately relocated to the Residential Isolation Recovery Unit and remained asymptomatic and after testing negative for the virus twice in the past two days, he has been released from Isolation. This week we received test results for twenty-five Veteran Residents which are all negative for the virus. We continue regular screenings of Veteran Residents to mitigate the potential spread of the virus. One of our Veteran Residents who recovered from COVID-19 is in a community based physical therapy/rehabilitation program and a second is receiving in-home rehabilitative care with his family.

To date, the DVA has tested two hundred and twenty-two Veteran Residents and Patients (most tested multiple times) for COVID-19 with twenty-five testing positive. Of the twenty-five Veteran Residents and Patients who tested positive, twenty-two have recovered from the virus. One Veteran Resident and two Veteran Patients passed away in late April and early May due to complications related to COVID-19. Four DVA staff members had tested positive for COVID-19 and all have recovered and returned to work with no staff members testing positive for the virus in five weeks.

The DVA is in the final stages for implementing regular onsite testing of DVA staff. We maintain regular screening of staff and Veterans and adherence to the DVA Enhanced Safety and Health COVID-19 Protocols and modifications thereto which are available, along with other important information, at: <https://portal.ct.gov/DVA/Pages/DVA-COVID-19-Updates>.