

My mother has been in a nursing home for three years and up to now we've been pleased. Apple Rehab WTN has kept Mom safe , and she is well cared for.

Due to Covid, patients have been isolated. I want Mom to be safe, but I worry about her mental health with all this isolation. We can now visit with rules outside. This has been wonderful. When this first began, we saw patients come outside very depressed not looking like themselves. Most of us families had visited often and knew the residents. Once outdoor visits came about, the residents began to look more like themselves: happier, waving, talking more. We just cannot go back to no visitation! Patients are already getting cold outside and we haven't hit bad weather yet. There MUST be a plan to have indoor visitation! We cannot be shut out for another six months! Many of these patients are 90-100 years old! These are their last years. We cannot afford to lose time with them.

I have also cancelled all of Mom's medical appointments. There has to be a plan to be able to take patients out for specialist care for example, eye exams. We must find a way to end this isolation and still keep them safe. All activities have pretty much been cancelled. Homes need to share ideas of how to proceed with safe activities. Nursing homes have very dedicated staff who have worked very hard under difficult situations. We must be assured that they are well staffed and that staff is protected. They have been so good to our loved ones. Part of living is to be well groomed. Hairdressers should be allowed to go back to work in our nursing homes. Podiatrists and other specialists must be back on regular schedules. Our patients demand this care. They seem to be forgotten by the State of Ct. We must come up with a plan to assure their safety without making them prisoners. They complain they are prisoners all the time. We're often told that "we're working on the logistics". It's getting colder for 90 yr olds to have visits outside. We must work this out soon!!

Is it possible to have the following:

One caregiver per patient to be allowed to visit daily who is Covid free and has his temp taken upon arrival

Do health professionals believe it's possible to have a room inside designated for scheduled visits as long as a list of precautions is met?

When you meet tomorrow, I ask that you all pretend your 95 yr old mother is a patient you need to visit. Perhaps then collectively you can find a way to make this work! There must be a way!

Thank you!

June Boisvert

Sent from June's iPhone