



KRISTUS DARZS LATVIAN HOME

Medical Director Report to 2021 Annual General Meeting For January 2020- March 2021 Medical Director, Dr. Niedoba

Average age as of December 31, 2020: 89

Number of Admissions in 2020: 31

Number of residents deceased 2020: 33

COVID Outbreaks

1. April 09-June 6, 2020

28 Residents test positive, 3 presumed positive since no post-mortem swab-total 31

14 resident deaths related to COVID (3 are the presumed positive)

22 staff test positive, 0 deaths

2. October 28-November 22, 2020

2 staff test positive, 0 deaths

3. December 16, 2020-January 28, 2021

15 Residents test positive

2 deaths related to COVID

10 staff test positive, 0 deaths

The Medical team is made up of 4 physicians: Dr. Niedoba (Medical Director), Dr. Krystolovich, Dr. Fadhel, and Dr. Niedra. The Home has 24-7 on call physician coverage.

By March, the Home was on high alert for potential COVID infections. Typically, the physicians would meet quarterly to discuss issues but in March a weekly update was initiated to ensure that the latest information was shared with Home staff and the team.

The Physicians work in other health care facilities and therefore high risk to enter the Home. Once the Home went into outbreak, weekly rounds alternated between virtual and in-person. Emergencies or significant changes in health status situations were dealt with in-person. Full personal protective equipment was worn.

As the pandemic progressed, hospitals prepared for shortages of beds and protocols were in place to ensure only critical cases were sent to hospital. The Pharmacy ensured drugs needed for palliation and respiratory infection were readily available in the Home. The Coroner released protocols on how to deal with those who died of COVID. In preparation, physicians reviewed end of life choices with families and residents.

The Professional Advisory Committee (PAC) continued to meet (virtually) on a quarterly basis. Members include the Medical Director, attending Physicians, the Pharmacist, the Physio-therapist, the Dietitian, the Nurse Practitioner, York Region Public Health, The Director of Care and other management staff as required. The Committee reviews updates and trends from the various practitioners, reviews policies as required and resident issues. During 2020, COVID was the main topic for discussion.



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During the Spring outbreak the lack of staff shortages and poor internet quality in some areas of the Home, virtual visits were challenging.

By the end of 2020, the focus switched to early symptom monitoring. During the December to January COVID outbreak, one physician was on site daily and would check on all the COVID infected residents and then update the attending physician. Dr, Niedra was able to take leave from other job locations to provide 4 of the 7-day coverage at KD.

As the vaccine became available physicians were available to provide information and reassurance to staff to encourage more to be vaccinated.

It was a very difficult year for Kristus Darzs staff and residents. Communication channels were open and together with the supporting stakeholders, the Home was able to control both outbreaks. Vigilance, good communication between parties, testing and vaccines are the tools needed to deal with the ongoing challenge of COVID and the variants.

I have submitted my notice to retire from my role of Medical Director effective April 30th, 2021. It has been a pleasure to work at Kristus Darzs Latvian Home and wish the incoming Medical Director success.

Dr. Niedoba
Medical Director
Kristus Darzs Latvian Home