

### **GUIDELINES DURING A PANDEMIC**

The following sets forth Guidelines for the provision of therapy dog services and visitation by The Good Dog Foundation ("Good Dog") to any "Partner Facilities" (i.e., hospitals, schools, nursing homes, and other organizations where Good Dog volunteers visit) during the current COVID-19 pandemic. First, and foremost, Good Dog will follow the advice and guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration ("OSHA") and applicable laws, rules and regulations, as each may change and be updated from time to time. See, for example:

- https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html
- https://www.osha.gov/coronavirus

## All Good Dog volunteers must:

- 1. At all times follow CDC and other applicable governmental guidelines, including the following:
  - Volunteers may not enter or remain in a Partner Facility office if feeling ill or having cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fever, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, or other Covid-19 associated symptoms recognized by the CDC.
  - For volunteers who contract COVID-19, see *Guideline Update #2*, below.
  - Volunteers who have had close contact with a person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 should quarantine for five days and during this time get tested. You may not enter any Partner Facility during this time. After that, if you're asymptomatic and have had a negative test, you can resume visits.
- Volunteers who have been in any Partner Facility within three days before a COVID-19 diagnosis
  or symptom onset must immediately notify the Good Dog office to allow contact tracing and to
  minimize exposure to others.
- 3. Volunteers visiting a Partner Facility must follow all COVID-19-related procedures required by building management, including, e.g., reduced occupancy in elevators and wearing face coverings over the nose and mouth.
- 4. All volunteers must at all times during a visit:
  - Wear face coverings over their nose and mouth until applicable CDC guidance and Good Dog guidelines are rescinded;
  - Wash their hands and/or use hand sanitizers frequently and use disinfecting wipes to sanitize high touch equipment after use.



All Good Dog volunteers should familiarize themselves with these Guidelines and any specific guidelines issued by any Partner Facility.

In the event of any conflict between Good Dog's Guidelines, on the one hand, and CDC and OSHA Guidance and/or applicable laws, rules and regulations, on the other hand, Good Dog's Guidelines will defer to the CDC, OSHA and applicable laws, rules and regulations.

These Guidelines are provided as a supplement to any Facility Agreement between Good Dog and any Partner Facility. In the event of a conflict between these Guidelines and the Facility Agreement, these Guidelines will govern.

## For all Partner Facilities, in furtherance of the above, Good Dog is requiring the following:

- Only Good Dog teams who have been fully vaccinated (including recommended boosters – see *Guideline Update # 1, below*), and have provided proper documentation, can participate in Good Dog in-person visits. Good Dog volunteers will not be permitted to sign a waiver to avoid this requirement.
- 2. All Good Dog teams (whether or not they have visited the Partner Facility previously) must comply with all Partner Facility requirements, including onboarding and reonboarding rules.
- 3. All human participants from Good Dog must wear proper masks *indoors* and use hand sanitizer frequently, including before and after each therapy dog encounter with someone during a Partner Facility visit. Regarding wearing masks during *outdoor* visits, our fully vaccinated volunteers will first and foremost be sensitive to and abide by the wishes of the facility and those they visit, but otherwise may remove them.
- 4. The Partner Facility will ensure that the rooms visited by Good Dog teams are well-ventilated, clean and uncrowded, that all those visited by Good Dog teams are properly masked, and that all those visited have used hand sanitizers before and after their encounter with a Good Dog team.
- 5. There will be a clear arrival-departure process for Good Dog's participating human-canine teams. For example, the Good Dog teams will be met at the front door by one of the Partner Facility's staff, checked for proper ID, provided with masks and gloves (if needed) and escorted safely to the designated Therapy Room(s), avoiding interaction with other patients and visitors. The Good Dog teams can be escorted out when the session is over.



#### **Guidelines During A Pandemic: UPDATE #1**

Information From The Good Dog Foundation Scientific Advisory Board

# Why the Boosters Are Important

The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines (utilizing *messenger RNA* technology) have had enormous impact on protecting world health in its struggle with SARS-CoV-2. Their success is unequivocal. Millions of vaccinated people have been able to avoid the emotional / physical trauma of severe Covid-19 infection and hospitalization. Countless deaths have been prevented. Here's how it all works:

#### Vaccines

Vaccines educate your *adaptive immune system* to quickly identify and destroy SARS-CoV-2 should it infect you. It is important to understand that adaptive immune responses do not *prevent* infection. <u>In fact, adaptive immunity doesn't get triggered until an individual is actively infected</u> – at which point your vaccine-educated adaptive immune system will eliminate the invading microbe, keeping symptoms to a minimum.

### Getting Covid-19

Adaptive immunity to Covid-19 is also established by getting the disease. But data strongly suggest that <u>the immune response to vaccination is more powerful</u> than the immune response to natural infection, especially with regard to the length of time that immune protection stays active.

### Boosters

Immune protection eventually wanes, even when vaccine-induced. It is the natural waning of immunity that provides the rationale for booster vaccines. As with initial vaccine shots, getting "boosted" does not mean you are incapable of getting infected. It means that, should you get infected, your symptoms will remain relatively mild and the active infection will be short-lived. Note: If you contract Covid-19 before you're able to get boosted, wait a month before you get the booster. Also, you must wait 5 months after your 2<sup>nd</sup> vaccination to get the booster. Importantly for Good Dog Volunteers, getting boosted also means the total amount of viral particles (known as "viral load") in your body will be limited, rendering you somewhat less contagious. This is why we mandate all our volunteers be boosted to the full extent, based on CDC guidance. Note: Approved boosters are from Moderna or Pfizer. There is some evidence that if your initial vaccine was Moderna, getting boosted with Pfizer (or vice versa) may enhance immune protection. If your initial vaccine was Johnson & Johnson, you should get the Moderna or Pfizer booster.

### Masks

Precisely because getting vaccinated and boosted does not prevent infection, Good Dog also mandates that all volunteers wear properly fitting / effective masks during all visits. Likewise, we want you to use hand sanitation between visits.

SUMMARY: Getting the recommended booster vaccines will protect you from serious illness, will limit the duration of illness, will decrease viral load, and will significantly lower infectivity (your contagiousness). It is for these reasons that The Good Dog Foundation insists that all of our volunteers follow the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with regard to booster vaccinations.



#### **Guidelines During A Pandemic: UPDATE #2**

Information From The Good Dog Foundation Scientific Advisory Board

# For Volunteers Who Contract Covid-19 Infection

The Good Dog Foundation follows the CDC recommendations regarding an active COVID-19 infection.

#### Isolation

Volunteers who suspect that they may have contracted COVID-19 should be immediately tested. If the test results are positive, confirming active COVID-19 infection, then <u>isolation</u> is indicated for at least 5 days. During these 5 days, an infected individual should remain home, separated from family members as best as possible. A well-fitting mask should be worn at home if isolation from family members is not possible. Once isolation is completed, this mask should continue to be worn for an additional 5 days when exposed to other individuals at home or in public. Individuals with confirmed COVID-19 need to isolate regardless of their vaccination status and regardless of whether or not they have symptoms.

#### • Termination of Isolation

Isolation can be terminated, <u>and you can resume normal activities including Good Dog visits</u>, after 5 days *providing you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and your other symptoms have improved*. Isolation should be continued if you are not fever-free or if your symptoms have not improved.

### Retesting

Although retesting is not mandatory, it is reassuring to know that your test is negative after 5 days of isolation. Test only if you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and your other symptoms have improved. The preference test would be a *rapid-antigen test*, as opposed to a PCR test (which can, on occasion, remain positive for an extended period of time). If your test is positive, you should continue to isolate until day 10.

NOTE: Please be advised that the recommendations regarding COVID-19 are based on the current epidemiologic status of the pandemic and may need to be modified over time. We will do our best to keep you updated with regard to any changes in this protocol.