Summarizing my review of the isolation/quarantine spaces at University Heights, I have the following observations.

Exhaust from bathrooms discharges at rooftop through central ventilation ducts. Kitchen exhausts discharge at the exterior walls. A/C units are exposed in the exterior walls at both 1st and 2nd floors, however they are designed to recirculate air and not expected to discharge significant indoor air.

COVID is spread thru close contact and/or extended presence in poorly ventilated spaces. We are not aware of any cases where COVID infection has been related to ventilation systems. The benefit in use of UH facilities is the open entrance design that minimizes the residents being in a common entry that’s not ventilated. In the case of UH facilities, access paths are all outdoors. There would be no expectation for air to be shared among units. Discharge of air at the side of the building or rooftop is not a significant source of exposure. The primary concern associated with isolation/quarantine spaces is to assure that residents follow required behaviors and Univ Housing has protocols in place to monitor behavior.

I would continue to strongly advocate for vaccination, face covering use and physical distancing in that order as primary mechanisms to minimize risk. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks,
Jim

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