



ANHF

AUSTRALIAN NURSING HOME FOUNDATION

澳華療養院基金

Culturally Appropriate Aged Care Since 1980

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21 August 2020

Dear Residents and Relatives,

COVID-19 Update #13

As NSW Health has issued warnings for additional venues in Inner West Sydney as the state's new COVID-19 hot spots, Chief Health Officer Dr Kerry Chant warned that people with influenza-like symptoms were much more likely to have COVID-19 instead of flu.

I am writing to provide you with more updates regarding our precautionary measures against the current COVID-19 outbreak risks.

Updates on ANHF facilities

- **Currently we do not have any suspected or confirmed cases.**
- Due to the public health warnings for COVID-19 hot spots in Sydney Inner West, we will continue to maintain a more restricted regime for our visitors because we know the consequences for an outbreak of COVID-19 in the residential aged care facilities are very serious.
- Since **Thursday 23 July 2020**, our nursing homes **have ceased**
 - **all non-essential visits;**
 - **all social distancing in-house &/ courtyard visits bookings;**
 - until further notice or at the direction of NSW Health.**
- Our Facility Managers continue to consider all requests for visits compassionately. This includes giving special consideration to end-of-life situations, palliative care and residents with dementia and special care needs. Please do not hesitate to contact our Facility Managers if you have the need.
- All staff and essential visitors have been required to **wear a surgical mask** (provided by us) while in the facility, in addition to the usual entry screenings¹.
- Infection Control and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) spot checks and training are repeated for staff on a regular basis.
- Our Connection Ambassadors continue to assist all residents to maintain communication with family, friends or others who are not allowed to enter the facility at this time.

- Our registered nurses continue to provide clinical updates of residents to their primary contacts.

Two scenarios for your consideration

Please find attached some information for your consideration regarding two probable scenarios during COVID-19 outbreak:

- **What to expect in the event if the facility has a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19?**
- **COVID-19-information-for-permanent-aged-care-residents-emergency-leave**

These are scenarios that we certainly do not want to see happen. However, we believe good communication is the key to our successful partnership in the care for your loved ones.

Please do not hesitate to speak to me or any of our facility managers or care manager if you have any questions or concerns.

Once again, our sincere thanks to you for your continuous understanding and cooperation during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Yours sincerely



Jenny Chua
General Manager, Residential Care
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ⁱ You should NOT visit any facility if

- You have fever or respiratory symptoms, even mild. You should isolate at home and seek COVID-19 testing;
- You are waiting for COVID-testing result;
- You have household members who are in isolation or pending COVID-19 testing result;
- You have travelled to Melbourne / Victoria in the previous 14 days;
- You have household members or have close contact with people who have travelled to Melbourne in the previous 14 days;
- You have not received Influenza vaccination or unable to show us the evidence of vaccination;
- You have visited any of the locations identified as COVID-19 hot spots or where there was a confirmed case (see updated list of venues and dates at <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/latest-news-and-updates> or <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/news/Pages/2020-nsw-health.aspx>). **It is important to regularly check the website, as this list may expand.**

For our updates during COVID-19, please visit our website www.anhf.org.au.