

23 November 2021

Dear Home Care & Community Service Consumers,

COVID-19 Update

The <u>latest updates</u> from NSW government:

<u>International arrivals in NSW</u> who are <u>fully vaccinated</u> are no longer required to quarantine in NSW. However, they must:

- have a COVID-19 test after arrival
- prove full vaccination as recognised by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) and have their vaccination status verified by the process determined by the Commonwealth.

People arriving in NSW from overseas who are not fully vaccinated must quarantine for 14 days.

What does this announcement mean to ANHF Home Care and Community Care Consumers?

	COVID-19 Vaccination	Returning from overseas	Receive In-Home Services	Attend Day Centres	Attend outings in the community	Receive modified essential services
Consumers	Fully vaccinated	Completed testing and isolation requirement	Yes ✓	Yes √	Yes ✓	Yes ✓
Consumers	Unvaccinated or part- vaccinated	Completed testing and isolation requirement (at least 14 days)	Additional risk mitigation measures may be required.	No 🗵	No 🗵	Yes ✓
Consumers who have household members	Fully vaccinated	Completed testing and isolation requirement	Yes ✓	Yes √	Yes √	Yes ✓
Consumers who have household members	Unvaccinated or part- vaccinated	Completed testing and isolation requirement (at least 14 days)	Additional risk mitigation measures may be required.	No 🗵	No 🗵	Yes ✓

Requirements for In-home and community aged care workers or volunteers

- Must have received their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and they must receive their second dose by 9am 29 November 2021.
- must not provide services if they:
 - are a close contact of a person with confirmed COVID-19 in the last 14 days,
 - are a casual contact of a person with confirmed COVID-19 and have not returned at least one negative nose/throat PCR test result,
 - are unable to provide evidence of having received a COVID-19 vaccine as per the <u>Public Health</u> (COVID-19 Care Services) Order 2021. On rare occasions, there may be a medical contraindication to COVID-19 vaccination. A <u>COVID-19 medical contraindication certificate</u> is required in this circumstance,
 - have COVID-19 symptoms,
 - are waiting for a COVID-19 test result,
 - have been overseas in the previous 14 days, unless they are fully vaccinated and have received a negative PCR test 7 days or later after their arrival.
 - are a staff member living with a person identified as a close contact, unless the facility has assessed that the staff member is essential and has put in place measures to minimise risk.

As part of additional risk mitigation measures, we require

- <u>All staff must wear a surgical mask</u> and/ or other appropriate PPE while working in the consumers' homes.
- <u>Consumers receiving home care services must also wear a surgical mask whilst a care / support</u> <u>staff is in attendance</u>.
- A home care worker or consumer may remove their mask:
 - while communicating with a person who is deaf or hard of hearing
 - o if wearing a mask creates a risk to health and safety
 - where clear enunciation or visibility of your mouth is essential
- Anyone removing a mask for one of these reasons should maintain 1.5m distance from others wherever possible.
- There are currently mandatory <u>face mask rules</u> in some settings. If a home care worker is taking a consumer out of the home setting it is important to follow the rules and understand how to <u>use a face mask</u>.
- If a person cannot wear a face mask because of a disability, physical or mental health illness or condition, they must carry either
 - a medical certificate or letter signed by a registered health practitioner (such as a doctor) or a registered NDIS provider or
 - a statutory declaration.

We appreciate your understanding that we may have to proceed swiftly in response to the COVID-19 situation. We will use other means such as telephone call or SMS to contact you, in additional to email at times of urgency.

Please do not hesitate to contact you Home Care Advisors or Home Care Office if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

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Jenny Chua General Manager, Care Services