



ANHF

AUSTRALIAN NURSING HOME FOUNDATION

澳華療養院基金

Culturally Appropriate Aged Care Since 1980

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Dear Residents and Relatives,

## COVID-19 Update #24

It is good news to know that NSW has no locally transmitted cases of COVID-19 for over two weeks and there are currently no areas identified as "[Areas of increased testing](#)" in NSW.

### Key points of the latest updates that are relevant to ANHF facilities

- Until further notice all staff and visitors must wear a surgical mask whilst in a residential aged care facility. This measure will continue to be enforced in all ANHF facilities.
- Until further notice, residents may have a maximum of two visitors each day. They may have different visitors each day.
- Visitors will be excluded from entering ANHF facilities who:
  - have a fever (37.5°C or higher) or symptoms of COVID-19 such as a runny nose, acute blocked nose, cough, sore or scratchy throat, fever, loss of smell or taste, or shortness of breath. These people must be isolated at home and seek COVID-19 testing even if symptoms are mild;
  - live in the NSW areas of increased testing;
  - have been to any of the locations on the close contact or casual contact list at the times and dates listed;
  - are a close contact of a person with confirmed COVID-19 and are within their self-isolation period;
  - live in a household with a person who is currently self-isolating
  - are waiting for a COVID-19 test result;
  - have been to any Victorian venues of concern since 29 January 2021;
  - have been to any WA Locations visited by confirmed cases or the Perth, Peel or South West Regions of WA since 25 January 2021;
  - have been to any contact tracing locations of interest in New Zealand since 15 January 2021.

**To be vigilant in preventing COVID-19, we will continue to implement the followings:**

- Booking system will be used to manage the number of visitors on site to enable share use of suitable social distancing meeting places.
- Our facility will obtain name and contact detail of visitors, including the time in and out of the facility (in case of need for contact tracing).
- Symptom and travel history screenings will occur at entry.
- Visits would take place in the agreed specific areas only for the agreed duration.
- Children visitors must be supervised.
- Hand hygiene will be facilitated. Social distancing at all times.
- Environmental cleaning post visit.

**Community activities and outings – family gatherings, Individual and group excursions**

- Residents are able to leave the facility for family gathering, individual outing or group excursion. **However, from a risk perspective our facility will advise a resident that they will be required to undergo COVID-19 test upon return if their outings have been deemed high risk. They may be required to be self-isolated for 14 days.**
- This is the guide we use in conducting risk assessment:

	<b>High Risk</b>	<b>Moderate Risk</b>	<b>Low Risk</b>
<b>How long is the resident leaving the facility?</b>	Over 2 days	Overnight (1-2 days)	A few hours
<b>Where is s/he going?</b>	Restaurant / Multiple locations	A private room in a restaurant / private home without adequate rooms for social distancing.	Private home with adequate rooms for social distancing / Outdoor park / open space
<b>Does the gathering venue have COVID-19 Safety Plan in place?</b>	No	Yes	Yes
<b>Who is s/he gathering with?</b>	Strangers / don't know	People from different household	Regular visitors to the resident
<b>How many people in the gatherings?</b>	Over 24	12 – 24	Under 12

- Due to the needs and risks from everyone is different, please discuss with your Facility Manager and complete your risk assessment.
- The facility will need to maintain records of the visit location, number of people in the gathering and the date of the visit.
- Residents and the persons responsible for taking the resident out will receive and have to agree to follow appropriate PPE and infection control advice if they need to leave the facility. COVID Safe behaviours must be observed including practicing physical distancing (1.5m) and hand hygiene. Face masks must be worn in indoor settings such as supermarkets, shared rides and other venues as per the Public Health (COVID-19 Restrictions on Gathering and Movement) Order (No 7) 2020.

### COVID-19 vaccine news

Australian government has recently released more information about their COVID-19 vaccine national roll out strategy and overview. Please find attached government factsheet for your information. We have not received any details from Public Health regarding how our residents and staff will receive the vaccine at this stage, but will keep you informed as soon as we have obtained more information.

For the latest COVID-19 hot spots or area of concern, please see updated list of venues and dates at <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/latest-news-and-updates> **It is important to regularly check the website, as this list may expand.**

We appreciate your understanding that we may have to amend our measures timely in response to the urgent directive from the NSW Health. We will use other means such as telephone call to contact you, in addition to email at times of urgency.

Please do not hesitate to contact our Facility Managers or their delegates if you have any questions.

We thank you again for your support and understanding.

May you and your family a happy, healthy and prosperous Chinese New Year!

Yours sincerely



Jenny Chua  
General Manager, Residential Care