

17th May 2021

Dear Residents and Relatives,

## COVID-19 Update #31

## The latest updates from NSW Health that are relevant to ANHF facilities are:

- Greater Melbourne is currently considered an affected area, with a number of <u>places of high concern</u>.
- Although there has been no further increase in local transmission of COVID-19 in NSW, however there are still current <u>close</u> and <u>casual</u> contact locations. Visitors must not enter residential aged facilities if they have been to identified these locations in NSW or Interstate <u>places of high concern</u>.
- For residential aged care facilities within the <u>Greater Sydney area, including</u> <u>metropolitan Sydney, Nepean Blue Mountains, Central Coast and Wollongong</u>:
  All staff and visitors should wear a surgical mask where possible.
- This information can change rapidly so please check the <u>web</u> at least daily for updates.
- From 1 June to 30 September 2021, all visitors and staff entering a residential aged care facility should be required to provide evidence that they received a dose of the 2021 influenza vaccine. In special circumstances including where a person has a medical contraindication to the influenza vaccine, has had a COVID-19 vaccine in the last 2 weeks or is booked in to have a COVID-19 vaccine, influenza vaccination is not needed for entry. See <u>Exceptional circumstances</u> for more information.

## 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 when the visits are taking place in a shared use meeting place/room. Visits in this situation will be restricted to the agreed number of visitors and duration.
- Our facility will continue to obtain name and contact detail of visitors, including the time in and out of the facility (in case of need for contact tracing).
- Temperature check, symptom and travel history screenings will occur at entry.
- Children visitors must be supervised.
- Hand hygiene will be facilitated. Social distancing at all times.

## Community activities and outings – medical appointment, family gatherings, Individual and group excursions

• Residents are able to leave the facility for medical appointments, family gathering, individual outing or group excursion to attend any event on these conditions:

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

- The event complies with the current <u>Public Health (COVID-19 Restrictions on</u> <u>Gathering and Movement) Order</u>.
- No one at the event:
  - Have been to any NSW, Interstate or Overseas locations listed in the current areas of concern at the dates and times listed for 14 days after they have visited the location;
  - Lives in the <u>NSW areas of increased testing;</u>
  - Has been a close contact of a person with confirmed COVID-19 and are within their self-isolation period;
  - Lives in a household with a person who is currently self-isolating;
  - Is waiting for a COVID-19 test result.
- Residents and the persons responsible for taking the resident out are reminded that they should ensure COVID Safe behaviours must be observed including practicing physical distancing (1.5m) and hand hygiene in place with high people density. They are responsible to record and disclose when required by the government the locations they have visited.
- Face masks will be provided for residents going out who may consider to wear them in crowded areas.

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 our Facility Managers or their delegates if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Jenny Chua General Manager, Care Services