

23 December 2020

NSW COVID-19 OUTBREAK UPDATE FOR RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE

Dear family member/friend,

I wish to provide you with further advice regarding State Government restrictions relating to the NSW COVID-19 outbreak and the impact on both visitation and the ability for residents to attend family gatherings over the Christmas period.

In line with the growing number of COVID-19 cases in NSW, the Government has announced:

- Anyone who has been in the Greater Sydney Region, Northern Beaches LGA, Cronulla, Lane Cove, Turrumurra, Woolloomooloo, Lavender Bay or Penrith suburbs from 11 December 2020 must quarantine for 14 days and have a COVID-19 test on days one, five and 12.
- Anyone who has been in the Wollongong LGA or Central Coast LGA from 20 December 2020 must quarantine for 14 days and have a COVID-19 test on days one, five and 12.
- Anyone who has been in any other part of NSW from 17 December 2020 will not be required to quarantine but must get a COVID-19 test on days one, five and 12.

In line with these Government requirements, the following precautions are in place across our Residential Aged Care homes until further notice:

- Anyone who has been in NSW since 11 December 2020, or in close contact with someone who has, is not permitted to enter our homes (except on agreed compassionate grounds).
- Residents are not permitted to attend gatherings where people who have been directed to quarantine may be in attendance.
- If a resident comes into contact with someone who has been directed to quarantine, they will be unable to re-enter the home until the person's day 12 test returns a negative result.
- Residents are recommended not to attend gatherings where people who have visited NSW and been directed to obtain COVID-19 tests on days one, five and 12 may be in attendance.
- If a resident comes into contact with someone who is not required to quarantine, but has been directed to get COVID-19 tests, they will be permitted to re-enter the home. However, they will be required to isolate in their room until the person's day 12 test returns a negative result and evidence has been provided.

To support the above measures, a new COVID-19 tracing register will be in use across our Residential Aged Care homes over the coming days to record where residents are going and who will be in attendance.

It is also important to note that as of today (23 December 2020) masks are no longer required to be worn by staff or visitors in Residential Aged Care homes. However, we strongly encourage the use of masks if residents are attending high density public places.

We understand this is an important time of year for families to come together but these precautions are in place to ensure the ongoing health and safety of everyone in our care.

For further details regarding self-quarantine and testing, visit www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/COVIDcontacttracing. For advice regarding information contained in this letter, please speak with your home's Director of Nursing.

Thank you for your ongoing understanding and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,



Sue Krake
Executive Manager Aged Care, UnitingSA