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COVID-19 VACCINATION AGED CARE ROLLOUT

Dear family member/friend,

On Monday this week the Federal Government launched <u>Australia's COVID-19 Vaccination Program</u>, with Residential Aged Care residents and workers among the first to be vaccinated.

While the government aims to ensure as many people as possible are vaccinated against COVID-19 in 2021, the vaccine is being rolled out in phases to prioritise vulnerable Australians and frontline workers.

The roll out of **Phase1a** is currently underway and includes:

- Residential Aged Care residents and workers
- Disability Care residents and workers
- Frontline health care workers and quarantine and airport staff

SA Health is facilitating on-site vaccination clinics for Residential Aged Care residents, and we are awaiting notification regarding the timing of our clinics. We expect to receive between two and seven days' notice from the government before each of our clinics are held.

To assist Residential Aged Care residents, families and representatives in making an informed decision about COVID-19 vaccination, the government has prepared a number of information resources.

In preparation for our upcoming clinics, I strongly encourage residents and their loved ones to familiarise themselves with the below documents:

- Information sheet for residents, families and representatives
- About the COVID-19 Pfizer vaccine
- What residents, families and representatives can expect on vaccination day
- After your COVID-19 vaccination
- Frequently asked questions

Printed copies of these documents will be distributed to all of our residents over the coming days.

Importantly, please find below a link to view the Federal Government's 'Consent Form for COVID-19 Vaccination' which must be completed in order to be vaccinated:

• www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2021/02/covid-19-vaccination-consent-form-for-covid-19-vaccination 2.pdf

I ask you to carefully consider the above information and to support your loved one in making a decision regarding their choice to vaccinate. Please note, if you require printed copies of the above documents, these can be collected from your home's Reception.

If your loved one wishes to be vaccinated against COVID-19, please ensure a consent form is submitted to their Aged Care home, either in-person or via email, by **5pm on Wednesday, 3 March 2021**.

If you have any concerns regarding vaccination, I encourage you to contact your loved one's treating medical practitioner or GP for advice. For more information about Australia's COVID-19 Vaccination Strategy, visit www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines.

Yours sincerely,



Sue Krake Executive Manager Aged Care, UnitingSA