

15th December, 2020

Anglican Care Advice to Consumers, Families & Friends – COVID-19 Update

Dear Consumer, families and friends,

Today, there has been an update to the NSW State Government Public Health (COVID-19 Aged Care Facilities) Order. There have been some significant changes to the public health order which will be welcomed by many of our consumers, families and friends. The following changes are effective from today across all Anglican Care Residential Aged Care Facilities:

- **Influenza Vaccination is no longer required for visitors.** It will not be a requirement to provide proof of vaccination on entry to our facilities for families and friends. Influenza vaccination remains a requirement for all employees, contractors & volunteers.
- **Increased number of visitors.** There are no longer specific restrictions on the number of visitors permitted per consumer, however we are required to following the health advice from the NSW Chief Medical Officer. To ensure adequate space for 1.5m physical distancing, we will now be allowing 3 visitors at one time in resident's rooms. There are no time limit on visits. If you wish to have a gathering of more than 3 people, please contact the facility and arrangements can be made for this to occur in a suitable area such as outside the facility, communal area or lounge area. Maximum time allowed in communal areas in 60 minutes.
- **Relaxation of visiting hours.** We are still required to ensure each visitor is appropriately screened for COVID-19 risk factors. General visitation will continue between 9am – 12pm and 1pm and 5pm daily. If you have a circumstance where you are required to visit outside of these times, please contact the facility to ensure employees are aware of your visit and appropriate screening is attended.
- **Screening Requirements continue.** All visitors must adhere to the usual entry and screening requirements. Visitors will not be permitted entry if:
 - They have a fever (37.5 degrees Celsius or higher) or any symptoms of COVID-19 infection, even if mild
 - They have had a COVID-19 test and are waiting on the test result
 - During the last 14 days have been:
 - Identified as a close contact of a COVID-19 case
 - In any of the locations on the self-isolate and get tested immediately list (at the times and dates listed), available here <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/latestnews-and-updates#self-isolate-and-gettested-immediately-if-youve-been-tothese-locations>
 - In any of the locations on the monitor for symptoms list (at the times and dates listed except where noted otherwise), available here <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/latest-news-and-updates#monitor-forsymptoms-if-youve-been-to-these-locations>

To view the Public Health Order, visit

<https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/file/Public%20Health%20%28COVID-19%20Aged%20Care%20Facilities%29%20Order%20%28No%204%29%202020.pdf>

As we move into the next phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, we need to work together to ensure the continued safety everyone in Anglican Care community. The risk of COVID-19 is still present and it is

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important to continue to be cautious, in particular throughout the Christmas period. Where possible, we encourage our consumers to spend Christmas at home with families. NSW Health have provided advice on Gathering Safely for Senior's during the COVID-19 pandemic. This advice may assist in planning Christmas celebrations. This advice can be found by visiting the NSW Health website:

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/factsheets/Factsheets/gathering-safely-seniors.pdf>

If you have any specific concerns or issues in regards to visitation or events throughout the Christmas period, please contact your Residential Care Manager or Kate McEwan (Infection Prevention Coordinator) via email katemcewan@anglicancare.com.au.

Wishing everyone a happy, peaceful and safe festive season.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'J. Cole'.

Janean Cole

General Manager Residential Care Services