

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

COVID-19 Update to Residents and Key Contacts 14 October 2022

Dear Eldercare Employees

Emergency Directions

Today the State Government has made announcements regarding changes to isolation requirements for close contacts and positive cases for people in the community.

The changes for community members not required to isolate anymore, **do not apply** to staff or visitors for residential aged care. Aged care is still classified as a high risk setting so the current rules that apply to the general community are not applicable to aged care.

The following applies to all Eldercare Employees:

- You are not allowed to enter any Eldercare site if you have any COVID or other flu or respiratory symptoms or are waiting for a PCR test result.
- You cannot enter any of our sites for 7 days if you have been a close contact or household contact of a positive COVID case.
- You can only return to work if you have been a close contact or household contact, if you have a negative test result (PCR or RAT) on day 6 or 7. If negative you can return to work on day 8.
- There may be very special circumstances where we allow a negative close contact to return to work, but these decisions are made by the Eldercare Senior Management and will be communicated to you on individual basis through your manager or the roster team.
- You cannot enter any of our sites if you have had a COVID positive test result yourself – for 7 days post positive test.
- If you have had COVID and your 7 days has been completed, you can only enter an Eldercare Site if you have been free of symptoms for at least 24 hours.
- All Eldercare employees are required to undertake a RAT test every 48 hours and daily if you are in a high-risk category of staff or if your site has positive cases.

These requirements apply to head office employees as well as all site employees.



Masks

There has been some information released about the possibility of masks no longer being required in aged care. Until we have a clear direction from SA Health regarding mask wearing, we are continuing to require all employees to wear masks as per the current guidelines.

If we receive formal notification of the rules changing from SA Health, I will communicate the decision regarding mask wearing as soon as possible.

COVID situation

Oxford and Allambi both have positive COVID residents today, but all other sites are free of COVID at present.

COVID-19 Email

We have set up a special email address for any queries regarding COVID. The new email address is:

COVID@eldercare.net.au

The emails will be checked daily, Monday to Friday, and responses provided as soon as possible.

Kind Regards

Jane Pickering
Chief Executive

