



# Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

## General Communication

Dear Residents and representatives,

Victoria continues to experience increased coronavirus (COVID-19) cases daily, with a significant number (over 60) now involving Residential Aged Care Homes, and more importantly an Aged Care Home in Traralgon has been impacted. It is now critical we take further steps to help keep our residents, staff and communities safe.

During this state of emergency we have made the decision to implement increased restrictions to all visitors into Margery Cole Residential Aged Care Service from Thursday 23 July 2020 until the current state of emergency ends on 19 August 2020.

Changes to Conditions of Entry into Margery Cole Residential Aged Care Service:

Yallambee will lockdown own home and only authorised visitors will be permitted within the Margery Cole building. Authorised visitors are those;

- Performing essential services, such as specific contractors and health care professionals.
- Families and representatives on compassionate grounds only; when the criteria of significant decline in residents' mental, emotional or physical condition and End of Life care is met. This will be coordinated with the individual resident's family and will be determined on each individual's specific needs.

Wearing of Facemasks:

From Thursday 23 July 2020 conditions of entry to Margery Cole Residential Aged Care Service will now include the wearing of a facemask. Those not wearing a facemask will be denied access into our home. This includes all staff, visitors and contractors.

Families and authorised visitors will not be granted entry unless they have authorised pre-booked visit and are wearing a facemask.

- On entry visitors and contractors will be required to supply their own reusable facemask (minimum 3 layer in line with Department of Health guidelines) or single use facemask.
- All must continue to be vigilant with hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette and social distancing requirements.

The Chief Health Officer recommends that all Victorians wear a face mask when leaving home if it is difficult to keep 1.5 metres apart from other people.

- Wearing a face mask protects you and your community by providing an additional physical barrier to coronavirus (COVID-19).
- Keeping 1.5 metres between yourself and others and washing your hands are still the best defences against coronavirus (COVID-19).
- There are two types of face masks suitable for community use: cloth masks and surgical masks.

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The two main routes of transmission of the COVID-19 virus are respiratory droplets and contact. Respiratory droplets are generated when an infected person coughs or sneezes. Any person who is in close contact with someone who has respiratory symptoms (coughing, sneezing) is at risk of being exposed to potentially infective respiratory droplets. Droplets may also land on surfaces where the virus could remain viable; thus, the immediate environment of an infected individual can serve as a source of transmission (contact transmission).

All persons residing in metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire will be required to wear a face mask or face covering whenever they are outside of their home from 11.59pm on Wednesday 22 July, these restrictions will help reduce the risk of the virus spreading.

Our request to wear a facemask aligns with the position of the Victorian government, until we have a vaccine for COVID-19 we will have this virus within our community and will need to protect ourselves and others. The wearing of facemasks may continue for an indefinite period and will likely become the new "normal" for all of us both at work in within our community.

### Window Visits & Facetime

We will recommence window visits from Monday 27 July 2020 and bookings for window visits can be made through reception, the same screening criteria will continue to be applied. Facetime will continue to be booked directly through Lifestyle and Wellbeing on 51323514 or [info@yallambee.com.au](mailto:info@yallambee.com.au).

### Residents' movements

Our residents will continue to move freely within our home, we strongly encourage all residents to remain within our facility. All non-urgent appointments should be cancelled and telehealth options utilised where possible. If residents do leave our home for any reason, on return they will be required to remain in their rooms for 14 days and wear a mask when in 1.5 metres of staff.

If you have any questions regarding these changes please contact Jackie Northe via [jackie.northe@yallambee.com.au](mailto:jackie.northe@yallambee.com.au) or [info@yallambee.com.au](mailto:info@yallambee.com.au)

Thank you for your support  
Outbreak Management Team  
22 July 2020