

Dear Residents, representatives & staff,

From 11.59pm 27 May 2021 across all of Victoria we have entered a 7 day state wide lockdown. New Directions from Chief Health Officer in accordance with emergency powers arising from declared state of emergency in the Care Facilities Directions.

This information is a summary of the enhanced restrictions that are now in place in all Residential Aged Care Facilities within Victoria. This action taken by the Victorian Government is a 'circuit breaker' with the aim of rapidly reducing movement to minimise the transmission risk following the increased number of active COVID-19 cases within Greater Melbourne.

Enhanced PPE requirements

- All workers are to wear surgical masks AND eye protection (face-shields preferred, goggles where face-shields are not practical) at all times. Tier 3 PPE (including N95 masks) is required for staff when they are entering the rooms of or providing care to symptomatic, suspected or confirmed COVID residents.
- Visitors must wear a fitted face mask at all times.

Enhanced visitor restrictions

Enhanced restrictions are in place from 11:59pm 27 May until 11:59pm 3 June 2021 across all of Victoria. Visitors are not allowed to enter a residential aged care facility during this time period except in the circumstances below:

All visitors wishing to enter for compassionate reasons will be required to book in via our online booking system or reception phone – 51323500 and must be scheduled within our normal visiting hours, End of Life Care is exempt.

Exceptions to the care facilities visitor restriction are:

- End of life – 2 visitors at any one time, but no daily limit or time limits
- Support visitors: Where the visitor is the parent, guardian, partner, carer or support person of the resident, and the person's visit is for the purpose of providing emotional, cultural, spiritual or social support to the resident that cannot reasonably be provided by that person via electronic or other non-contact means (1 visitor per day for max 1 hr)
- Essential care persons: Visitor's presence at the facility is for the purposes of providing essential care and support necessary for the resident's physical wellbeing that optimises the care and support delivered by workers at the facility and cannot reasonably be provided by that person via electronic means (1 visitor at any one time, no time limits for the duration of the visit)



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- In the case of a resident of the facility who has a mental illness—the person is the resident's nominated person and the person's presence at the facility is for the purposes of matters relating to their role as nominated person (1 visitor per day for max 1 hr)
- Essential behaviour assistance person: Visitor's presence at the facility is necessary to support individual behaviours of concern, such as for people living with dementia, cognitive impairment or cognitive disability, or who have a known or emerging serious mental illness (no time limits)
- Interpreters or informal language support (1 visitor at any one time, no time limits)
- Visitor is being assisted to handover care for discharge (1 visitor, once per day, for 1 hr)

Excluded Persons

Staff and visitors should be prohibited from entering the aged care facility where the visitor has:

- worked in or volunteered at a hotel quarantine site and/or other port of entry in the last 14 days
- been released from hotel quarantine in the last 14 days

Any person who has visited the exposure sites as listed should be considered an excluded person as they would be required to quarantine. Excluded persons cannot enter the facility for any reason. This includes any persons visiting for any purpose (including end of life) unless they have a specific exemption granted by the Chief Health Officer pursuant to Clause 5(5) of the *Care Facilities Directions*.

Please refer to the coronavirus website for an up to date list of [exposure sites](#) and follow the instructions (for example, get tested and self-quarantine).

Declarations for staff and visitors

Staff, workers and visitors to RACFs are required to declare in writing at the start of each shift or before entering a facility that they:

- do not have any coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms
- are not a close contact of someone who has coronavirus (COVID-19) case
- are not currently required to isolate or quarantine, as directed by the Department of Health and Human Services. This includes that they have not visited an [exposure site](#).

In addition to the written declaration, all staff and visitors must be checked for symptoms, including checking for a temperature over 37.5 degrees Celsius.

Declarations can be on paper, an app or equivalent providing it is in writing.



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Enhanced Restrictions for residents leaving RACFs

Enhanced restrictions are in place from 11:59pm 27 May until 11:59pm 3 June 2021 across all of Victoria.

The seven day circuit breaker lockdown means people cannot leave their home unless it is for one of the five reasons below. This applies to residents of RACFs in the same way it applies to other people in the community. If a resident needs to leave the home for any of the reasons below, then an outing form must be completed.

- Essential work/ authorised education attendance.
- Shopping for essential items, must be within 5km of your home, unless there are no facilities within that radius.
- Exercise with one other person only, and within 5km of home.
- To be vaccinated.
- Necessary medical appointments, or is for the purposes of providing essential care and support to someone.

Resident's movements within the home will not be restricted.

The café will be shut to visitors and residents.

If you have any questions regarding our COVID-19 response or the State Government Directions please contact Jackie Northe via jackie.northe@yallambee.com.au

Thank you for your support

Outbreak Management Team

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