



# Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

## General Communication

Dear Staff,

New Directions from Chief Health Officer in accordance with the state wide circuit breaker lock down have now been issued. It provides further detail around restrictions within residential aged care homes.

Changes from initial communication highlighted.

### Enhanced face mask requirements

- All visitors are required to wear face masks when in an indoor space or in any outdoor space when a visitor cannot maintain 1.5m distance from all other persons (except those with whom their ordinarily reside or an intimate partner).
- All workers are required to wear face masks.

Workers are not required to wear goggles or face shields.

### Other measures

- Enhanced screening and testing on admission or return to facility from leave residents found to have visited listed exposure sites – [linked here](#) to be tested and managed as at risk COVID until results known.
- Enhanced focus on screening visitors and staff and continuing daily workforce attestations.
- Restricting visitors and staff found to have visited exposure sites until they have returned a negative test result.
- Tier 3 PPE for low risk suspected COVID-19 and high-risk suspected COVID-19 residents as per PPE guidance [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) PPE guidance for RACF Factsheet linked here](#).
- Where practicable, care facility workers should be limited to working at one facility.
- Student clinical placements permitted in all settings but restricted from providing care/being exposed to high-risk SCOVID and confirmed COVID patients. Students restricted to one campus/site only.

It is anticipated geographic locations and exposure sites will be updated in coming days. Please monitor the [DH coronavirus website](#) for the latest information.



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## Enhanced visitor restrictions –

No visitors are permitted into aged care or other sensitive settings, except for end-of-life reasons or other specified purposes.

### End of life care visits

- **Two visitors at a time**
  - Do not have to be from the same household.
  - No time limits.
  - No specified purpose required.
  - No daily limit.
  - A group may exceed the “two visitors at a time” rule if dependents of a visitor are in the group and care for the dependents cannot be arranged.

### Specified purposes:

- Provide essential care or support for the resident’s immediate physical or emotional wellbeing.
- Is the parent, carer or guardian of a person under the age of 18.
- As a nominated person (as defined in the Mental Health Act 2014).
- As an interpreter or to provide language support.
- To learn to support the patient or resident’s care upon discharge.

### Visitor restrictions for Specified Purposes visits:

- **Two visitors at one time**
  - Do not have to be from the same household
  - **No time limits.**
  - Specified purpose required.
  - **No more than two visitors per day, including dependents.**
    - A group may exceed the “two visitors at a time” rule if dependents of a visitor (or patient in hospital) are in the group and care for the dependents cannot be arranged.

**Visits from prospective residents are not permitted.**

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](mailto:jackie.northe@yallambee.com.au)

Thank you for your support

Outbreak Management Team

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