

5 July 2022

Dear Residents and Representatives,

Please find an update on the COVID-19 situation at Meath Care below.

Michael Lee Centre, Como

Clinipath will be returning to the Centre to carry out PCR testing in the Jarrah/Sandalwood area tomorrow (Wednesday 6 July).

There remains **1 active resident case at the Centre** in the Jarrah/Sandalwood area.

Dr Mary Surveyor Centre, Kingsley

The PCR testing held on Perry yesterday identified **4 new resident cases**.

Following the full recovery of 1 resident, the new cases increase our **active caseload to 20 residents**. There will be repeat PCR screening for residents on Perry on Thursday (7 July).

As per our email communication yesterday, we have been liaising closely with the Commonwealth government for advice and assistance in this current outbreak due to the significant numbers of affected residents and staff.

Given the extent of our outbreak currently, **all visitors to the Centre will need to complete RAT on entry**, irrespective of the area they are visiting. RAT kits will be made available at Reception.

Further to this we **encourage all visitors to the Centre to wear respirator style masks** i.e. N95, P2, KN95. As we have limited stock which we must prioritise for staff, we are currently unable to provide these to visitors. Once we receive additional supplies which are on order, we may be in a better position to provide these to visitors.

Finally, whatever area you are visiting at the Centre, we recommend that you reconsider the need to visit while the Centre is experiencing the current outbreak. We need to take these additional steps to arrest any transmission and minimise exposure to all areas.

As is clear from the current caseload in the community, COVID is not receding quickly and remains an imminent threat to the most vulnerable in our community. Our current situation that is affecting staff and residents at the Dr Mary Surveyor Centre is a huge reminder how the situation can change quickly and how the virus only needs a small opportunity to take hold.

Unfortunately, the opportunity that COVID can exploit is the time between a person becoming infected and the person becoming aware that they are infected. Please ensure that the conditions of visiting are always followed as these aim to reduce the likelihood of transmission.

As a reminder, when visiting **you are only permitted to visit the resident that you have come to visit** and not pop in on other residents while you are on site. This may seem obvious, especially given the public health directive limiting visitors, but there have been recent reports of visitors doing this.

We appreciate everyone's assistance, and in particular thank relatives, residents and staff for their patience and kindness to each other given the situation over the last few weeks at both Centres.

While our recent situation has proved more challenging than before, the previous outbreaks were also difficult but able to be navigated through. We must continue to support each other by doing the right things and not become complacent. Through working together, we keep each other safe and will get through this.

With best wishes,



Chris Roberts
Chief Executive Officer

General visiting hours

Monday-Friday: 0900-1600 hours

Saturday / Sunday / Public Holidays: 1000-1500 hours

Visiting outside these hours can be arranged – please discuss with the Centre Manager

Conditions of visiting, from 5 July 2022

Dr Mary Surveyor Centre, Kingsley

Perry

- This area is closed to Visitors (except Partners in Care / Essential Visitors); and
- Partners in Care and Essential Visitors will undertake **Rapid Antigen Testing** on entry.

Shenton and Darch

- All visitors must **wear a mask at all times** within the Centre;
- All visitors must be **fully vaccinated** against COVID-19 or have a valid exemption;
- All visitors must undertake **Rapid Antigen Testing** on entry;
- A **maximum of 2 visitors** at any time, and a **maximum of 2 visitors** per day;
- Visits must either occur in the **resident's room** or in **outside areas**;
- Visitors must practise social distancing, hand hygiene, and cough etiquette;
- Visitors must not visit if they are **unwell**, been in **contact with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case**, or visited a **potential COVID-19 exposure site**; and
- Visitors who have been **overseas in the preceding 7 days need to inform us of their overseas travel on entry**.

Michael Lee Centre, Como

Jarrah/Sandalwood

- This area is closed to Visitors (except Partners in Care / Essential Visitors); and
- Partners in Care and Essential Visitors will undertake **Rapid Antigen Testing** on entry.

Olive/Wattle, Sheoak/Tyalla, and Tuart/Karri

- All visitors must **wear a mask at all times** within the Centre;
- All visitors must be **fully vaccinated** against COVID-19 or have a valid exemption;
- Visitors must declare that they have undertaken **Rapid Antigen Testing** in the **previous 4 hours** and have a **negative** result (NB - daily visitors - in the previous 72 hours);
- A **maximum of 2 visitors** at any time, and a **maximum of 2 visitors** per day;
- Visits must either occur in the **resident's room** or in **outside areas**;
- Visitors must practise social distancing, hand hygiene, and cough etiquette;
- Visitors must not visit if they are **unwell**, been in **contact with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case**, or visited a **potential COVID-19 exposure site**; and
- Visitors who have been **overseas in the preceding 7 days need to inform us of their overseas travel on entry**.