

8 July 2022

Dear Residents and Representatives,

Following the identification of new cases at both Centres, please find an update on the COVID-19 situation at Meath Care below.

Michael Lee Centre, Como

We have identified a **single new resident case** by RAT this morning in the **Olive/Wattle** area. As a result, we are taking the following actions as a precaution to reduce the likelihood of a further outbreak at the Centre:

1. An **urgent request for PCR screening** to Olive/Wattle to establish any transmission has been made to Clinipath. They will be PCR screening on Sunday (10 July).
2. **Visiting will be restricted to Essential Visitors only** to the Olive/Wattle area until we receive the PCR screening results.
3. **Dedicated staff** for Olive and for Wattle. This will mean that staff won't be working across the joint Olive/Wattle areas and additional staffing is available.

We understand that reinstating the visiting restriction to Olive/Wattle will be unwelcomed, especially given the recent extended outbreak in that area. However, in conjunction with splitting the staff team either into Olive or Wattle, this allows us to establish the extent of transmission and hopefully allows for removing the restrictions to Olive or Wattle quickly, if PCR screening show no cases in that area.

Dr Mary Surveyor Centre, Kingsley

Following the PCR screening undertaken yesterday, there were **2 new resident cases** identified. While it is encouraging that there were no new cases detected on Perry, unfortunately the 2 new cases were both **detected on Darch**.

As a result of these new cases on Darch, we are again required to restrict visiting to Essential Visitors only until the extent of the outbreak on that floor is known. Darch was also subject to an extended period of visiting restrictions in recent months, so we hope to minimise the duration of the restrictions.

Clinipath shall be returning to screen residents on Darch and Perry by PCR on **10 July (Sunday)**.

While the new cases identified today are a set-back, they were quickly identified following potential exposures. Thank you to those people who let us know of those potential exposures at the earliest opportunity – it is a case of the sooner the better when it comes to trying to manage outbreaks. We hope that the resulting early intervention allows for us to control the situation and avoid extended disruption.

Thank you for your continued assistance at this time. Please be assured that we shall communicate any updated information as we become aware.

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 8 July 2022

Dr Mary Surveyor Centre, Kingsley

Darch and 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

- 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

Olive/Wattle

- 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.

All other areas (Jarrah/Sandalwood; Tuart/Karri; Sheoak/Tyalla)

- 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**.