

30 August 2022

Dear Residents and Representatives,

Please find an update in relation to our COVID situation at Meath Care.

Michael Lee Centre, Como

The delayed PCR testing at the Centre occurred yesterday for residents in Olive/Wattle. This returned a **single positive result**. The affected resident is asymptomatic and has been placed into isolation.

However, the resident who was identified as being RAT positive on 25 August was subsequently tested by PCR the following day, and the result was negative. As a result, the Centre has only **one active case** and is therefore not considered to be in outbreak.

We have continued with periodic internal screening of residents in all areas by RAT, and all residents have returned negative results. There are currently no plans to PCR screen residents (see below).

Dr Mary Surveyor Centre, Kingsley

There are **no active cases** at the Centre.

COVID Screening

In early August we were notified by the Public Health branch of the WA Department of Health who were informing us that changes to blanket PCR screening would occur at the end of September. Given our experience last week where the planned screening was cancelled, we have discussed this further with Public Health and Clinipath as we had not received any further information related to this.

It appears that Clinipath were instructed not to undertake screening at any aged care facilities last Friday, although all booked screening took place yesterday. Today, following our enquiry, we have been informed that screening asymptomatic residents should now be undertaken by the Centre using RATs; while residents with symptoms should receive an individual PCR test as requested by the GP.

Although the guidelines have not been updated or released yet, this means that we are now unable to request blanket screening by PCR directly – this can only be approved by Public Health; and it appears to be taking effect now, rather than at the end of September.

Once the updated guidelines are released, we will communicate any other changes that may affect how exposures or outbreaks are managed in our Centres.

Thank you for your kindness and assistance in minimising the presence of COVID in our Centres.

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 20 August 2022

Dr Mary Surveyor Centre, Kingsley

All areas

- 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**.

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