

COVID-19 UPDATE

Dear Residents, family, friends and advocates,

I think you are all aware, and as expected, COVID-19 is steadily impacting on our local communities and across Australia. As South Australia transitions to living with COVID-19, we need to have plans and processes in place to ensure our Residential Aged Care Facilities (RACFs) are well prepared to manage and care for COVID-19 positive people.

Should a RACF resident test positive to COVID-19, SA Health will work with staff to ensure the resident receives the best possible care and that other residents are also protected against the risk of COVID-19 transmission. In many cases, SA Health will be able to support the RACF to continue to care for the resident in their own home, e.g. Longridge, while transfer to hospital will be available where required.

SA Health will determine this on a case by case basis in consultation with us here at Longridge who will consult with family and/or advocates. Consideration will be given to both the clinical needs of the resident/s and factors such as clinical management expertise, environmental layout and the vaccination status of the COVID+ resident and other residents in the home.

The COVID-19 Strategy for Residential Aged Care Facilities is available as a resource document to guide individual Residential Aged Care Facilities in the prevention, preparation, management and recovery stages of responding to COVID-19 situations in South Australia.

This document is currently being updated, and the new version and additional fact sheets will be available shortly. A key component of this document is the updated COVID-19 Guideline for Management in Residential Aged Care Facilities flowchart, which is now available as a stand-alone document on the SA Health. I have attached this for your perusal.

<https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/resources/outh+australian+covid-19+strategy+for+residential+aged+care+facilities+racf>

VISITING

As you all know, there is no need to make appointments to visit your loved ones, however, please consider linking your COVID-19 digital certificate to your mySA Gov check in app. This means that you can quickly check in and show proof of your COVID-19 vaccination wherever it's required. Then you can forget about your hardcopy when visiting, as the "tick" will get you in! Go to - <https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/vaccination/adding-proof-of-covid-19-vaccination-to-mysa-gov> and follow the prompts. Your COVID-19 and Flu vaccine evidence will be an entry requirement as of 6th December 2021.

OUTINGS

If you plan to take your loved one out over the lunch period, we would like to be able to notify our Catering staff in advance. You can phone Reception staff and we will be happy to arrange this. This request applies to BOTH Weekdays and Weekends, thank you.

As always, stay safe and please, my door is always open should you have any feedback or questions.

Kind regards,

Mary-Ann Koerner
CEO