

9 April 2021

Warrigal Update

Dear resident representatives and relatives

The past week has seen an increase in the number of Australians receiving the COVID vaccine, with over 920,000 now vaccinated, compared to 597,000 last week, including residents in 925 aged care homes receiving the vaccination. Those vaccinated have all been in the initial high risk groups identified in categories 1a and 1b, which includes residents in residential aged care, frontline workers and people over 70 years of age.

There has also been a change in the advice from the Federal Government this week, where the use of the Pfizer vaccine is now preferred over the AstraZeneca vaccine in adults aged less than 50 years who have not already received a first dose of AstraZeneca vaccine. While this will not impact the rollout of the vaccine with the residents, it will have a significant impact on the number of staff who will receive the vaccination. At this stage, the only staff that are receiving the Pfizer vaccine will be where there are surplus doses delivered to the care home, which will be minimal. While this will result in a delay for the general population, including many of our staff, our focus will now be on ensuring staff receive the influenza vaccination, and for those aged under 50 years, waiting until more supply of the Pfizer vaccine is available.

We now have three homes that have received both doses of the vaccine, while this week Aspen Medical administered the first dose of the vaccine to almost 400 residents at Mt Warrigal, Albion Park Rail, Mount Terry and Shell Cove. The feedback from the teams at each of the homes was very positive about the organisation and coordination of the vaccine, which included close monitoring of everyone for 15-30 minutes immediately after the vaccination and then further reviews throughout the day. I was fortunate enough to attend a number of the homes and talk to the residents on the day of the vaccination, who were both apprehensive but pleased that they were receiving the vaccination.

Next week, the only home that will be receiving the vaccination will be Goulburn on 16 April 2021. The table below has been updated to reflect those where the doses have been completed.

Aged Care Home	Vaccination Dates		Provider
	1 st Dose	2 nd Dose	
Stirling	<i>24/02/2021</i>	<i>17/03/2021</i>	Aspen Medical
Calwell	<i>12/03/2021</i>	<i>7/04/2021</i>	Sonic Healthcare

Coniston	<i>18/03/2021</i>	<i>8/04/2021</i>	Australian Defence Force
Queanbeyan	<i>30/03/2021</i>	20/04/2021	Sonic Healthcare
Warilla	<i>1/04/2021</i>	22/04/2021	Australian Defence Force
MT Warrigal	<i>6/04/2021</i>	27/04/2021	Aspen Medical
Albion Park Rail	<i>7/04/2021</i>	28/04/2021	Aspen Medical
Mount Terry	<i>8/04/2021</i>	29/04/2021	Aspen Medical
Shell Cove	<i>8/04/2021</i>	29/04/2021	Aspen Medical
Goulburn	16/4/2021	7/5/2021	To be confirmed
Bundanoon	23/04/2021	14/05/2021	Sonic Healthcare

There were no relative meetings held this week, but there are two scheduled for next week, Albion Park Rail on 14 April and Mt Warrigal on 16 April 2021. If you have not responded to the invitation, but would like to get an update from the Executive and Management on issues impacting the sector including the Aged Care Royal Commission Recommendations, COVID Normal and Accreditation, please take the opportunity to attend the meeting.

Thank you to those of you that have provided feedback on the updates, and for your support in ensuring that consents were provided in a timely manner. There has been a lot of change over the past 12 months and keeping everyone updated has been a high priority, and your feedback, both positive and constructive has been appreciated.

Please do not hesitate to contact Warrigal by email at warrigal@warrigal.com.au with any feedback you might have or by calling our information line on Customer Relations Information Line on 1800 927 744.

Yours Sincerely,



Craig Smith
Executive Leader - Service Integrated Communities