

Warrigal

Inspiring communities
for older people

From the desk of
**Executive
Operations**



24 June 2021

Warrigal Update

Dear resident representatives and relatives

In view of the significant changes that have occurred in the community since the update last Friday, with 31 cases now linked to the Bondi cluster, it is important that we provide an update to all residents and relatives. There have been a number of restrictions implemented in both aged care homes and the community as the number of positive cases have increased over the past week.

It is anticipated that the number of positive cases will continue to increase with more “hotspots” being identified and the number of tests being conducted increasing, with 44,640 undertaken yesterday, compared to 28,645 the previous day. This could result in further restrictions being implemented, and if this occurs, further communication will be provided.

In relation to our aged care homes in Shellharbour, Wollongong and Wingecarribee LGAs the following restrictions are currently in place;

- Only two visitors are permitted to visit a resident each day.
- Visits should be in the residents’ room.
- All staff and visitors must wear surgical masks at all times.
- Residents in these LGAs can still leave the care home providing the location they are attending complies with the community guidelines that were announced today.

These restrictions that apply from 4pm yesterday include the following;

- Visitors to households will be limited to 5 guests – including children;
- Masks will be compulsory in all indoor non-residential settings, including workplaces, and at organised outdoor events;
- Drinking while standing at indoor venues will not be allowed;
- Singing by audiences at indoor shows or by congregants at indoor places of worship will not be allowed;
- Dancing will not be allowed at indoor hospitality venues or nightclubs however, dancing is allowed at weddings for the bridal party only (no more than 20 people);
- Dance and gym classes limited to 20 per class (masks must be worn);
- The one person per four square metre rule will be re-introduced for all indoor and outdoor settings, including weddings and funerals;
- Outdoor seated events will be limited to 50% seated capacity;
- Previous public transport capacity limits, represented by green dots, will be reintroduced;

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In 2020, very little influenza circulated in NSW, as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions and recommendations. That few people were exposed to influenza means that fewer people than usual will likely have immunity in the coming year, making vaccination even more important for protecting people from influenza illness.

From 1 June to 30 September 2021, all visitors aged 6 months and over, and staff entering a residential aged care facility should be required to provide evidence that they received a dose of the 2021 influenza vaccination. It is not mandatory, but it is possible, that this could change. If you have had the influenza vaccination, please provide evidence of this to the staff at the care home.

As always, your feedback is always welcome and is important for us if we are going to establish trust and provide a quality service. There are many ways that you can provide this feedback including contacting your local management team, emailing us at warrigal@warrigal.com.au or by calling our Customer Relations Information Line on 1800 927 744.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CS' or similar initials, written in a cursive style.

Craig Smith
Executive Leader - Service Integrated Communities