

5 May 2020

Dear Patient,

## RE: Changes to Visitation Restrictions

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation in Australia continues to evolve. Fortunately, and directly aided by the valued cooperation of patients and their family members, during a period of significant uncertainty, we are beginning to see signs of the COVID-19 crisis easing in the Riverina.

On 27 March 2020, in response to the latest Commonwealth Department of Health advice, restrictions on general visitation were introduced by Calvary, at speed, in the interest of minimising the risk of a potential COVID-19 outbreak in one of our facilities at a time of heightened risk.

This decision was not taken lightly. These restrictions were decided at a time when the States and Territories were reporting growing instances of community transmission, and introduced to ensure the safest possible environment for the vulnerable people in our care.

## Eased Private Hospital Visitation Restrictions from 6 May 2020

We are pleased to inform you that Calvary is introducing an incremental lifting of restrictions on general visitation in our private hospitals. This lifting of restrictions will be conducted on a facility-by-facility basis, dependant on the status of community transmission rates in the relevant location.

### **From tomorrow, 6 May 2020, we are introducing eased visitation restrictions at Calvary Riverina Hospital.**

This easing of restrictions is because there is currently limited evidence of community transmission in Wagga Wagga and the wider Riverina. While the COVID-19 situation is improving, infection remains a risk. Accordingly, Calvary will continue to monitor the situation and review restrictions on visitation on a 14 day basis.

Pending any change to the COVID-19 situation in the Riverina, Calvary may need to reintroduce restrictions, with limited notice, to protect the safety of patients, their loved ones, and our staff.

### **From 6 May 2020, the following eased restrictions on visitation will apply:**

- **One visitor will be permitted for a short visit.** Calvary will be permitting visitation for a patient's single nominated person. Social distancing of 1.5 metres separation will still be required.
- **Screening and temperature checks.** Introduced last month, screening questions and temperature checks for all visitors and staff will continue. If a visitor is found to have an elevated temperature of 37.5 degrees celsius or greater, entry will not be permitted.

Your safety remains our primary responsibility. The cooperation of patients, their friends and family members in helping our staff manage the risk of infection to the people in our care has been excellent.

We are pleased to be able to take this next step in easing restrictions, and thank patients and visitors to continue to follow the directions of staff.



We will keep you updated as the COVID-19 situation evolves. For up-to-date information for all patients and their loved ones, please visit Calvary's COVID-19 updates site regularly at:

[www.calvarycoronavirusupdates.org.au](http://www.calvarycoronavirusupdates.org.au)

Please don't hesitate to contact the hospital should you have any questions or would like more information. Thank you for your continued cooperation and understanding in this difficult time.

Sincerely,

**Martin Bowles**  
National CEO

**Bryan McLoughlin**  
Regional CEO - NSW