



IMPORTANT: COVID-19 Update – SA Emergency Management Direction and Advice for Aged Care Employees

Date: 19 November 2020
To: All Employees, CRC Flora McDonald and CRC St Catherine's
Effective: IMMEDIATELY
From: Sharon Kendall, Regional CEO - South Australia | Luke Sams, National Executive Advisor - Aged Care

As you will know, Premier Steven Marshall yesterday announced a series of new emergency restrictions on the movement of people and the operation of businesses, effective 12:01am Thursday 19 November 2020.

The [Emergency Management \(Stay at Home\) \(COVID-19\) Direction 2020](#) includes a directive that for the next six (6) days only essential workers are permitted to attend the workplace.

Consistent with the SA Government Directive, **effective 12.01am 19 November 2020 to 11.59pm 24 November 2020**, the following advice applies to all Calvary SA Retirement Communities employees:

- **Employees working in Residential Aged Care Facilities are defined as essential workers under the SA Government's Emergency Direction.** This means you are able to attend the workplace as normal unless you have been advised to self-isolate or are awaiting the results of a COVID-19 test.
- **Carry your Calvary ID card when travelling to and from the workplace.** If questioned by authorities, your Calvary ID card will be sufficient evidence that you are an essential worker in aged care.
- **The suspension of general visitation remains in place for Calvary Flora McDonald and Calvary St Catherine's Retirement Communities until further notice.** Special exceptions apply for residents who are receiving palliative care and/or who are at end of life.
- **Resident outings have been suspended with exceptions for necessary medical care.** Residents are only permitted to attend necessary medical/dental/diagnostics where the care cannot be delivered on site or virtually via tele health.
- **Staff are required to wear a facemask at all times.** Any visiting GP or a visitor who is permitted entry as a special exception will be required to wear a facemask at all times.
- **Consistent with SA Government advice, Calvary advises all South Australian employees to wear a facemask when in public.** To support the safety of our staff while in the community, Calvary will be issuing reusable facemasks to every South Australian employee next week.
- **Any person entering the facility will be required to first be screened and have their temperature checked by staff.** Fever is one of the symptoms of COVID-19 and any person with a temperature (greater than 37.5 degrees Celsius) presents a potential risk of transmitting the virus to others.

The latest developments are a timely reminder for all, that if you are unwell, and are showing signs or symptoms of COVID-19, respiratory illness, gastroenteritis, as below, you should not present to work.

To protect each other, and the people in our care, we must remember to:



Stay at home if you are feeling sick or unwell. If you are unwell and are showing signs or symptoms of COVID-19, respiratory illness, gastroenteritis, as below, you should not present to work.

- fever;
- respiratory symptoms; including:
 - coughing;
 - sore throat; and/or
 - shortness of breath.

Other symptoms include headache, sore throat, fatigue, shortness of breath, loss of taste or sense of smell, chills and vomiting. Atypical symptoms of COVID-19 may also occur including chest pain, diarrhoea and conjunctivitis.

- **Exercise good hand hygiene.** Please continue to wash your hands well and regularly and in accordance with our infection prevention protocols.
- **Maintain social/physical distancing.** Social/physical distancing of 1.5 metres separation and 1 person per 4 square metres greatly reduces the risk of infection.
- **Use good cough and sneeze etiquette.** Cough into your elbow and cover your nose and mouth when sneezing. If you have a new persistent cough, you should not be at work.

We understand and greatly appreciate your conscientiousness, work ethic, and desire 'not to let your team members down' but in this instance, **attending your shift, if you are showing any of the above symptoms, poses a grave risk to your colleagues, those we care for and the whole community.**

These measures are in place to reduce the risk of potential COVID-19 transmission to other members of staff, our GP and allied health partners and the vulnerable people in our care.

For the latest updates on evolving SA Hotspots and staff requirements, please visit [the SA Health website](https://www.sahealth.gov.au) and www.calvarystaffupdates.org.au regularly. Please contact your manager if you have any questions.

Thank you for all that you do for Calvary and the vulnerable people in our care.

Please do the right thing and stay home if you are unwell.