

Dear BallyCara Residents, Family & Friends,

It is lovely to once again hear the animated buzz of conversations between friends, as they enjoy each other's company across the buildings including in our main lounge and dining areas. Increased movement of Residents into the broader community is also a welcome sight.

However, as pleased as we are for this to have happened, COVID and the Winter Influenza is no less a risk to our community. Whilst there have been further restrictions removed recently by the Queensland Government, BallyCara is continuing to retain some precautionary measures that have supported the health of all Residents within our care, and to minimize the risk of broad transmission of viruses when individual Residents are a confirmed case of COVID or Influenza. These measures are:

1. Our staff & visitors will continue to wear P2/N95 masks at all times in the building;
2. All new Residents admitted into Sunnyside and Hibernian Villas, as well as existing Residents on return from hospital stays will be isolated for a period of 7 days in their own room however will be able to receive visitors (in their rooms with adherence to the required personal protective equipment) & still be able to access our outside path & garden areas (while wearing a mask if possible), and maintaining social distancing at all times from other residents who may also be in these areas.
3. COVID vaccination is a requirement for all visitors to our Residential Care buildings (exemptions must be authorised by the Residential Services Manager);
4. We ask that you continue to be vigilant with checking in through Zipline, social distancing and the use of hand sanitiser.

ZIPLINE

In order to help streamline the visiting and check-in process for Residential Care, over the coming months we will be introducing the ability to book into the Zipline check-in system prior to arriving to visit your loved one. Booking your visit prior to arriving will reduce the time for you at check-in and allow a more streamlined entry process. The only items that will need to be done on arrival is confirming your arrival and temperature recording. All other details will be in the system. We will offer a step-by-step guide over the coming month.

COVID BOOSTER CLINIC

On Friday 27th May we held our main COVID Winter booster clinic for residents.

The great majority of residents have now received their Winter booster, however, some were clinically unable to receive this on the day.

Their due dates will now come up at different times, so we will work together with each individual Resident, family & GP to try and facilitate this vaccination in as timely a manner as possible.

If you are unwell with anything transmissible, or a close contact of someone who is, please refrain from visiting until given the 'all clear'. I know that we are all working together to keep our BallyCara community virus-free, so thank you.

If you have any questions, or would like further information, please contact myself, Andrew or Subu – we will be pleased to assist.

Kind regards



Kerry Mahedy
Residential Services Manager

