



Important Vacenti Update on Coronavirus - COVID-19 - Update no 35 – Update on Lockdown Information as at Friday 15th January 2021

Good afternoon

[Aged Care Direction 20](#) was issued today Thursday, 14th January. It seems Aged Care Directions are being changed faster than we can update you. The main change in this Direction is the removal of the visitation restrictions for those who have been in Victoria within the last 14 days. Aged Care Directions 19 and 20 have also clarified the overall visitation position. We know the Premier's announcements about restrictions being eased last Monday caused confusion. In summary, under Aged Care Directions 20, a person cannot enter an aged care home in Qld:

- 1) If they have come from overseas in the last 14 days (paragraph 9);
- 2) If, during the 14 days prior to entry, they have been in a [Declared Hotpot](#) (there are further conditions here, paragraph 9). Declared hotpots are currently the Greater Sydney area;
- 3) If, during the 14 days prior to entry, the person has had known contact with a person who has a confirmed case of COVID-19 (paragraph 9);
- 4) If the person has a temperature equal to or higher than 37.5 degrees or *symptoms consistent with COVID-19* (paragraph 9);
- 5) If the person has been tested for COVID-19 and has not yet received the results of that test (paragraph 9);
- 6) if the person has been in **Greater Brisbane** on or after 2 January 2021, unless 14 days have passed since the person was in Greater Brisbane (Paragraph 33);
- 7) If the home is in a declared [Restricted Zone](#) (there are further conditions here, paragraph 36). At the time of writing this update, the listed Restricted Zones include the City of Brisbane and Redland City, which encompasses all Vacenti homes.

All 7 of these conditions must be met before open visitation can commence again. It is entirely possible, for example, that the "(6) been in Greater Brisbane in the last 14 days" is removed at some point, or you are visiting from outside Greater Brisbane, but we remain in the Restricted Zone list which means open visitation cannot recommence. Vacenti monitors all information daily so we will update you as soon as something changes.

In summary, the following continues to be applied to **all** Vacenti homes:

Visitations Restrictions

- 1) No visits from family and friends are allowed, including after-hours and weekend visits. This includes regular visitors.
- 2) Any family approved by the Facility Manager to visit during the lockdown to provide direct essential care and support may do so until the lockdown is released, or the approval revoked, but must wear a mask at all times. You will need to discuss your particular circumstances with your home's Manager today if you wish to enter a home over the lockdown period.

Residents leaving the home

- 1) Aged Care Direction No 20 allows residents to leave the homes in a Restricted Zone to receive or access health care; or to attend a funeral; or in the case of emergency or on any other compassionate grounds. We strongly ask you to consider the nature of any external appointments planned and only attend critical medical appointments.

Wearing of Masks

Aged Care Direction No 20 requires all visitors, staff and contractors to wear a "single use surgical face mask".

- 1) All Vacenti staff were issued face masks and are now wearing them throughout their shifts.

- 2) Family and visitors who have entry approved by the Facility Manager are required to wear a “single use surgical face mask” at all times whilst in the home including in your loved one’s room.
- 3) Cloth masks are not acceptable inside our homes. You will be provided a mask by Vacenti on entry. We ask that you wash your hands before fitting, and after taking it off. Our staff will assist with fitting if necessary. Disposal bins will be available at the exit.

Sign-In

Family and visitors who have had compassionate entry approved are required to sign in as usual.

Resident Contact

We are sure that this time is now unsettling for some residents and families. Please feel free to make telephone contact with your loved one, or make use of our video telehealth.

We do not have any COVID-19 cases in any of our homes nor any staff in 14-day quarantine as a precaution for coming from a COVID -19 known ‘Hotspot’.

Please let us know of anybody who needs to be added to our mailing list along with the resident’s name and relationship.