

9 June 2021

## Coronavirus Update #55

Hello to our Maroba Community,

### Re: Weekend visiting & evidence of influenza Vaccination

I write to you today concerning the advice from NSW Health regarding influenza vaccinations that also led to our changed visitation arrangements for the weekend as per Update #54.

This arrangement is about to be adjusted again, and I apologise for the mixed messaging and the confusion this may cause. We have attempted many times over the last couple of weeks to obtain a clear stance regarding the requirement to provide evidence of an influenza vaccination. At all times, we have been acting on the advice we have received from NSW Health and which is also available on their website.

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/racf-latest-advice.aspx>

Yesterday we rang the Aged Care Quality & Safety Commission, the governing body that is responsible for accrediting, assessing and monitoring aged care as well as determining compliance requirements for aged care providers. We were advised that provided we have taken all necessary precautions we would not be working outside of our compliance requirements for admitting any visitor who had not produced or was able to produce an up to date influenza certificate.

This means that whilst we encourage our visitors to be vaccinated for influenza (as per NSW Health guidelines and Commonwealth preference), if you are not able to or inclined to be vaccinated (and don't have any cold or flu like symptoms and/or other Covid related precautions) you are able to visit Maroba freely within our normal visitation arrangements. As the health landscape changes these arrangements may change on short notice.

### Key points

- *If you have received an influenza vaccine, please continue to provide evidence as this information will be vital in the event of an influenza outbreak and contract tracing is required to contain the further spread of disease.*
- *Visiting is back to normal visitation arrangements that is 7 days a week from 9-7pm with no appointments necessary.*

Thank you to all our staff, families and residents for your patience and understanding.

Please continue to stay safe and well throughout this winter season. We are seeing evidence of colds and flu spreading in the community so please stay away if you have even the slightest symptoms.

Kind regards,  
Viv Allanson, CEO

