

15th March 2024

Dear Residents, Family and Friends,

GOOD NEWS!!

Today we have reviewed the Community Covid numbers can see that the numbers are continuing to trend downward. We are also seeing a reduction in staff cases with no new cases within the last week.

So the good news is that we will now be relaxing our requirement to wear a mask, therefore **Masks will no longer be required for ALL Vistors, contractors or staff as from today. Please note we will continue with the need to perform a RAT on a daily basis but will review this further in the coming weeks.**

Covid is still active throughout the nation and locally so please continue to take extra precautions to protect yourselves and others by staying away if you have any symptoms of infectious illness such as colds and Gastrointestinal disturbance. Please be cautious if you have returned from holidays or have attended large public events. We will continue to monitor numbers within the community and of course if numbers start to escalate again we will consider reinstating measures as required.

Current COVID guidelines at Maroba:

For Residents

- Residents only undergo a **Rapid Antigen Test (RAT)** when they are symptomatic and if there has been an exposure to a Covid positive person. This may escalate if other areas are impacted.

For Visitors

- All visitors must undertake a RAT before visiting Maroba – if you visit on a daily basis please ensure a RAT is performed every 2nd day. **Please write the date of the test on the RAT cartridge before taking a photo or placing it in a secure clear bag. Keep a photo of your RAT test on your phone as proof and present it to reception or a staff member after hours.** Free RAT kits are available at our reception, please feel free to take some home to test before your visit. Do not leave the kits in your car as they must be kept at a cool stable temperature to be effective.
- No longer any restrictions on the number of visitors. You are welcome to use common areas also.**
- There are no visiting hours however for the safety of our residents the doors are locked from **sunset until sunrise**. During these times visitors access is by pressing the call button at the entrance, so a staff member is aware of your arrival and can let you in. Dinner commences around 5.00pm and after dinner residents are usually settling in for the

night. Arrangements can be made with staff if you are taking your loved one out during these hours to have easy access on your return.

- **Check in** using the Cool Gard System is no longer mandatory for visitors but please show your RAT photo to reception.
- Please don't visit if unwell or Covid Positive or if you have been in contact with a Covid positive person in the last seven days. Please let us know so we can assess the risk.

For Staff, Volunteers, Contractors, Agency Staff & Students

- Our staff, volunteers, students and Agency Staff will continue to RAT test each time before coming onsite at Maroba.
- Volunteers, Contractors, Agency Staff, and Students will continue to **check in** using our CoolGard System.

If you have concerns with our approach, please call us to discuss. Alternatively, you can contact:

- Older Persons Advocacy Network (OPAN) on 1800 700 600
- The Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission on 1800 951 822
- Senior Rights Service 1800 424 079

For additional information, please contact reception at 4935 0300 during office hours or email us at enquiries@maroba.om.au.

The Maroba family thanks you for your ongoing support and co-operation, as we work to ensuring the best possible outcomes for all our residents.



Viv Allanson
CEO

