

Friday, 13 January 2023

Dear friends,

This letter follows my letter dated Tuesday, 3 January 2023 and simply confirms that we have closed the COVID-19 outbreak at Moss Vale which began on 17 November 2022 involving 50 cases including one who sadly died in hospital.

We have commenced a two (2) week enhanced surveillance period where we focus on identifying any undetected cases, but we are confident that this outbreak has been resolved. I take this opportunity to thank and congratulate the team at Moss Vale who, with great support from residents and families, managed a 50-day outbreak without resorting to a lockdown. Feedback about this new approach has been very positive.

Key conditions of entry for visitors to both homes are now:

- Unless you are a doctor or other registered health professional engaged directly by a resident, or emergency personnel, all visitors must have a negative RAT on the day of and prior to entry. You may perform your test at home, but free RAT kits are available at the entrance. If you use our RAT kit, you must perform the test and wait for your result outside the building.
- You must wear a P2/N95 mask, these are available at the entrance. You may request permission to remove your mask from a Registered Nurse, and if permission is granted you must maintain social distance. You may remove your mask to eat or drink in the café, and outdoors.
- You must perform hand hygiene with alcohol-based sanitiser before entering the building, before and after touching anything, and when you leave the building.
- You must register your visit using the touchscreen kiosk at the entrance and wear your ID sticker during your visit.
- Visiting hours are 10am to 4pm, except for end-of-life visits and Partners-in-care who may visit outside these times by agreement.

Harbison

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For the first time since the current wave of community transmission began, the number of outbreaks in Australian residential aged care homes has reduced, although more than ¼ of all homes are still in outbreak. We are pleased that Burradoo avoided an outbreak despite several sporadic cases, which is further evidence that our current approach is effective. Thank you to the Burradoo team for working skilfully to achieving this outcome, and for supporting Moss Vale while you did it.

As usual, this letter is being shared with everyone in the Harbison community. If you are new to these, they are one of the ways we keep people informed about outbreaks and other important topics, and if you are counting, then this letter marks the end of our 8th COVID-19 outbreak since December 2021. I hope it will be the last letter this Summer.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Cochran', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David Cochran
Chief Executive Officer