



ACT
Government

ACT Health

Infection Prevention and Control

The Basics

Sandy Wynn
Infection Control Manager
Communicable Disease Control
Health Protection Service

KEEP COVID OUT



- Hand hygiene on entry
- Vigilant screening, everyday, every person
 - All staff
 - All visitors, including GPs, Geriatricians, allied health
 - Influenza vaccination
 - Temperature check
 - Symptoms check
 - Travel history – hotspots
 - Visitor and visit restrictions under ACT public health directions
 - <https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/what-you-can-do/act-public-health-directions>
 - ACT Public Health advice for High Risk Settings
 - <https://www.health.act.gov.au/health-professionals/chief-health-officer-alerts>
 - These are also emailed to ACF Managers
- Review each declaration before allowing the person entry

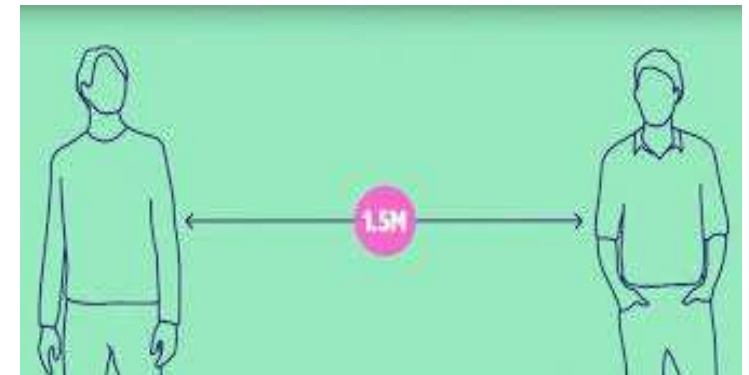
BE SUSPICIOUS

- Look out for the signs and symptoms
- Isolate immediately
- Wear PPE when in their room
- Test
- Assume they have COVID until their test result is received
 - important to note that even if negative for COVID they may have an ILI which still requires isolation



STAFF

- Zone staff now
 - Limit staff interaction and physical distance from staff in other zones
 - Cleaners can be zoned as well
- Limit resident movement to within the zone
- Consider staggering start and finish times
 - Different zones start and finish at different times
 - Different break times or different breakout areas
 - Provide ABHR in staff room
 - Clean high touch surfaces after each use in staff room
- Discourage staff from working at other facilities



PPE

- Contact and Droplet Precautions
 - refers to PPE that will protect you from being contaminated from respiratory droplets and contaminated surfaces
 - Surgical mask
 - Long sleeve gown
 - Eye protection
 - Gloves
- Contact and Airborne Precautions
 - As above with use of a P2/N95 respirator instead of a surgical mask
 - Only required when performing high risk (aerosol generating) procedures
 - Unlikely to be required in a Residential Care Facility

PPE

- Also acronym for Practice Practice Everyday
 - Each staff member should have a practice kit
 - Including the cleaners
 - Buddy up and watch each other once a day
 - Change buddies regularly
 - All staff should have regular competency checks recorded
- Alcohol hand rub at donning/doffing stations
- Signage at donning/doffing stations
 - What PPE is required
 - Instructions for donning and doffing



PPE

- Reusable eye protection?
 - Clear instructions on how to clean it
 - Does this process ensure clean and dirty are not mixed up?
- Stock levels
 - Estimation of how long will it last?
 - Order supplies from your usual supplier
 - Know where to get extra supplies if you get a COVID case
 - agedcarecovidppe@health.gov.au
- Question – Can masks be re-used?
 - No

HAND HYGIENE



- Provide Alcohol Based Hand Rub (ABHR)
 - At the entrance of the facility
 - Throughout the facility
 - In the staff room
 - At PPE donning and doffing stations
- Have signage in place to encourage all staff and visitors to perform hand hygiene
- Have staff done Hand Hygiene training recently?
- Who is responsible for checking the containers of ABHR are not empty?
 - Do they know this is their role?
 - How often is this done?
- Do you have an adequate supply of liquid soap and paper towels?

CLEANING

- Have the cleaners been trained in donning and doffing PPE?
 - Have they had a competency check?
- Is it clear who is going to clean a COVID positive resident's room?
 - Cleaners?
 - Carers?
- Are the COVID cleaning procedures documented
 - Have your cleaners been given clear documented instructions
 - Have they been translated for cleaners where English is a second language?



THE END

