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| **Vacenti Update on Coronavirus - COVID-19 - Update no 12****Information as at Friday 8th May 2020**Good afternoonI know we keep saying it, but it is for good reason and it is appreciated – thank you to all our residents, families, visitors and staff for your ongoing and unwavering support and cooperation in all our initiatives, the latest being compliance with the Qld Health vaccination requirements and our start up sign-in processes. There has be a lot of data entry but, as of this morning we have over 800 family members and visitors who have shown their vaccination certificates and been entered into our systems. I can also inform you that 100% of our working staff have been vaccinated (thank you staff) and also over 100 contractors and service suppliers have provided their records.**Mother’s Day – this Sunday 10th May**We are aware of the National Cabinet discussions and easing of restrictions, both at a national policy level and a Qld state direction level. Unfortunately, there are separate and specific directions for aged care and our updates will always be based on aged care requirements.All Vacenti homes will be open for Mother’s Day visits this Sunday, 10th May, from 10:00am to 2:00pm. We respectfully ask that family members and visitors vacate the home by the 2:00pm cut-off. The visiting restrictions of 1 visit per resident with a maximum 2 people still apply as this Qld Chief Health Officer (CHO) Directive remains in place as at today. Children under 16 years of age still cannot visit. Taking your loved one off-site for an outing is also still not allowed per the CHO Directives.**Vacenti Visiting Restrictions Going Forward**Vacenti is very conscious of the impact of the current visiting restrictions on residents and families and has tried to balance mental wellbeing and social isolation against the very real risk and impact of a COVID-19 infection in any one of our homes. Our COVID-19 Committee continues to discuss things daily and meet more formally every week to discuss the pathway forward.As advised previously our strategy moving forward is to review our restrictions in line with changes to government directives to ensure the chance of community spread into our homes is minimised. Our next proposed move is to commence relaxing weekend restrictions as the risk COVID-19 in the community and entering our homes reduce. Most likely we will open our homes for a short period on one day on the weekend. **We will advise you when that will commence, please wait for further information on this. As at today visits are still to be conducted during business hours only (Monday – Friday 8:30 - 4:30).**Other things we are reviewing is numbers of visitors allowed, when you can take you loved one out for a drive, having a meal with them, attending concerts with them and all the things we were used to doing. We do have a plan going forward but it is largely dependent on government regulations easing and the ongoing limiting of community transmission.**Lifestyle Activities**Our Committee has also decided to recommence some lifestyle programs including music therapy. These will not be open to families at this point.Please continue to make use of our telehealth stations, phone calls, emails, or send photos and messages through our “[Message to a Resident](https://www.vacenti.com.au/contact/contact-resident/)” on our website.We are also putting a call out to any family members who play a musical instrument and would like to do a short “soiree” or “recital” for small groups of our residents. Your assistance would always be welcome.**“Thank you” to our staff and for your “thank you”**The Vacenti management and COVID-19 committee wants to acknowledge and thank all of our staff for how each person has cooperated and accommodated our requests and requirements. COVID-19 has meant a greater workload in all areas and our staff have met this challenge. Your thank you’s are also appreciated and forwarded to the relevant people. Our staff welcome your appreciation.Keep up with your social distancing, hand washing and keeping your loved one safe. |
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Yours sincerely,

**Brian Sharp**

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