



17th August 2020

Dear Relatives and Representative

Like us, you are no doubt following news about the Victorian Aged Care Facilities. To help prevent the same terrible outcome occurring in South Australia, our Health Department has updated their Emergency Plan for Aged Care Facilities. New regulations that take effect from 27th August 2020 include requiring Personal Care Workers (PCWs) to work in only one facility and the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for all staff coming within 1.5 metres of a Resident.

Saint Hilarion is ready to implement all new requirements. Staff have been surveyed and the small number of PCWs who work across other facilities have been asked to select one employer. Fortunately, this applies to less than 20% of our current workforce. Staff have also been informed that upon entering a residential unit they will be required to wear masks and gowns. Gloves already required when providing personal care will remain mandatory.

We are aware that some of the people we care for may be frightened or distressed when they see staff dressed in this manner. If this occurs, please reassure your loved ones that this is only a precautionary strategy and does not mean that anyone is infectious. We would also be grateful if you could let us know of anyone distressed by this change. Our Mental Health Coordinator supported by teams of mental health professionals stands ready to reassure anyone who is concerned.

To further assist us to keep everyone safe we ask you abide by the attached rules while visiting our facilities. If you do decide to take your loved ones outside of the facility, please also ensure that you do not enter a crowded area and practice social distancing at all times. Finally, while not currently a government requirement, we ask that you consider wearing a mask while visiting and while taking your loved ones outside of our facilities.



The Society of Saint Hilarion

Please be assured we are doing everything we possibly can to keep the people we care for and our staff as safe as possible. Your assistance during these difficult times is greatly appreciated.

Yours Faithfully

Dr Carol Davy
Chief Executive Office
The Society of Saint Hilarion Inc.
Aged Care