

Dear valued Rembrandt Residents, Staff, Families & Friends

Re: GASTRO OUTBREAK – REMBRANDT COURT ALERT TO ORANGE STATUS

Unfortunately, we must advise that we have 1 confirmed and up to 6 suspected cases of Norovirus/Gastroenteritis ('Gastro') at Rembrandt Court. **We have made the difficult decision to lock down our home in the hope of catching it early!** Neighbouring aged care homes have had significant outbreaks in recent days, and we want to avoid this if possible.

Gastro's main symptoms are vomiting and/or diarrhea - it is often called the 'stomach flu' although it is not caused by the influenza virus or COVID-19. The affected person may also have headache, fever, and 'stomach ache'. In general, the symptoms begin 1 to 2 days following infection and may last for several days.

Is gastro a serious illness?

For most people, it is not - people who get gastro almost always recover completely without any long-term problems however the vulnerable (e.g. the elderly) may get a more serious illness. It is thus imperative to minimise its spread at Rembrandt Court and keep our residents safe.

Is the illness contagious and how does it spread?

Yes, gastro is contagious. It is spread through close contact with infected persons (for example, by sharing food, water, or eating utensils).

The Orange Alert Stage includes:

1. All visits to our residential care home are temporarily suspended (except in extenuating circumstances including end-of-life visits);
2. Residents are to remain in their houses and not to leave Rembrandt Court unless medically necessary.
3. An increase in the use of PPE across our service

This Alert Level will remain for at least a few days. We continue to monitor the situation closely and we will adjust our strategy (with little or no notice if needed) to ensure the safety of our residents and staff. We thank you in anticipation for your understanding.

As always if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us on info@rembrandtliving.org.au or 8198 0300.

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REMBRANDTLIVING.ORG.AU

Group	Lockdown Stages			
	Green	Yellow	Orange	Red
Rembrandt Court Residents	Services, life, and business as usual	Some Optional (*) events cancelled	Residents to remain within their houses (or their rooms if they have symptoms)	Only Medically-essential (*) gatherings continue.
		Onsite Cafés closed to the general public (only staff, residents and resident visitors to access).	Only Important (*) group gatherings continue. All allied health (gym) classes and other Optional (*) group gatherings cancelled (bingo, knitting etc)	Residents to remain in their rooms.
				BLACK

Staff & Volunteers		Business as usual with heightened vigilance on infection control processes.	Increased use of personal protective equipment. Volunteers asked to stay at home.	Increased protections and full pandemic procedures in place
Visitors to our site(s)		Visitors asked to keep to a minimum in number and frequency	Only Important (*) visitors allowed to enter	Only Medically-essential (*) visitors (e.g. resident palliative, doctor etc)
Contractors & Suppliers		All Optional (*) contractors cancelled (e.g. Entertainers, external preventative maintenance)	Only Important (*) contractors to be onsite (e.g. plumber) All deliveries to be made outside of buildings	Only Medically-essential (*) contractors to be onsite. All deliveries to be made outside of buildings

Kind regards,



Deb Dutton
Chief Executive Officer



Timara Poulish
General Manager Residential Services

