

Limiting Worksite Mobility for Residential Aged Care in impacted areas in Victoria

Date: 14 February 2021

Updated 16/02/21

Commonwealth Department of Health has made the following announcement today through a Bulk Information Distribution Service (BIDS) message. There are a number of key themes in the message however the below information relates to RAC Single Site Employment.

Limiting workers in Greater Melbourne to one site

The safety of residents and workers in residential aged care is the highest priority. To minimise the potential risk of workers unintentionally transmitting COVID-19 by working across multiple sites, aged care workers in residential aged care facilities in Greater Melbourne are encouraged to limit their work to one site. Where this is not possible and a worker is to attend more than one site, workers must declare this before beginning their shift and records must be kept to enable prompt contact tracing if required.

In line with the Commonwealth Chief Medical Officer's declaration of a hotspot for Greater Melbourne, Australian Government [grant funding](#) is available to support implementation of these arrangements over the hotspot period until **17 February**. If the hotspot declaration is extended, these arrangements will also be extended.

A reminder that employers should ensure their workers are not financially disadvantaged during this period. Where this results in additional out of pocket costs for the provider, reimbursement can be sought through the grant application process. The Support for Aged Care Workers in COVID-19 (SACWIC) grant opportunity remains open until 30 June 2021.

For guidance on practical implementation of single site arrangements and the available funding support, providers can visit the [Guiding Principles Support Hub](#) website or phone the hotline on **1800 491 793**.

Please also note that all workers working/volunteering in Hotel Quarantine and other ports of entry are restricted from working at any other health service, aged care service or organisation, other than the hotel quarantine site, unless they have obtained prior permission. This includes any existing employers, and covers paid work, self-employment and volunteer work (such as SES or CFA).

For workers affected by single site arrangements, Converge International will deliver up to five free counselling sessions per person. Phone 1300 687 327 or visit www.convergeinternational.com.au to book an appointment. Please state you are from the Victorian Aged Care Workforce when booking.

For further information go to Guiding Principles Support Hub:
www.supporthub.agedservicesworkforce.com.au or
call **1800 491 793** Monday to Friday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm