



Health

Hunter New England
Local Health District

My Aged Care Facility has a COVID-19 case.....



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Prevent, Plan & Protect



Prevent

- Screening, Visitor restrictions

Plan

- Outbreak Management Plan, Resources

Protect

- Infection Control, Outbreak Management Team





- The only way to stop an outbreak is to prevent it!
- Screening (visitors, staff, residents).
 - Visitor restriction as per Chief Health Officer advice

30 September 2020 – Advice to Residential Aged Care Facilities



Our ref: H20/109263-3

Key points

- Exclusion recommendations are in place for **certain areas in Sydney and Victoria**
- Clarification that facilities located in these areas should exclude visitors except in certain circumstances.
- Further advice will be reconsidered **next week** based on the incidence of COVID-19. In the meantime, facilities should monitor the COVID-19 news and updates page for any new locations of concern: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/latest-news-and-updates#latest-covid-19-case-locations-in-nsw>



- Outbreak Management Plan
 - Know your resources and where to find information
 - PPE & infection control training
 - Cohort staff
 - Be organised
- e.g. Excel resident line lists
- Desktop exercise



3. Protecting



- Infection Control
- Outbreak Management Team
- Communication
- Partnership



So Public Health calls your facility.....



- Inform of diagnosis (if staff member, then they would be informed prior)

- Reduce immediate risk

Isolate resident & PPE, request visitors to leave

- Inform of diagnosis/Check welfare of resident

- Facility information (no of residents & staff, manager contact details ect)

- This conversation will take **approx. 1 hour**

After the phone call



- Communicate & form OMT
(staff, resident, resident family, family, who else?)

- Droplet precautions

Initially ALL residents will be managed with droplet precautions

- Gather information for Public Health
- Screening of all residents and staff for symptoms
- This should take **approx. 2 hours**

What information will public health request?

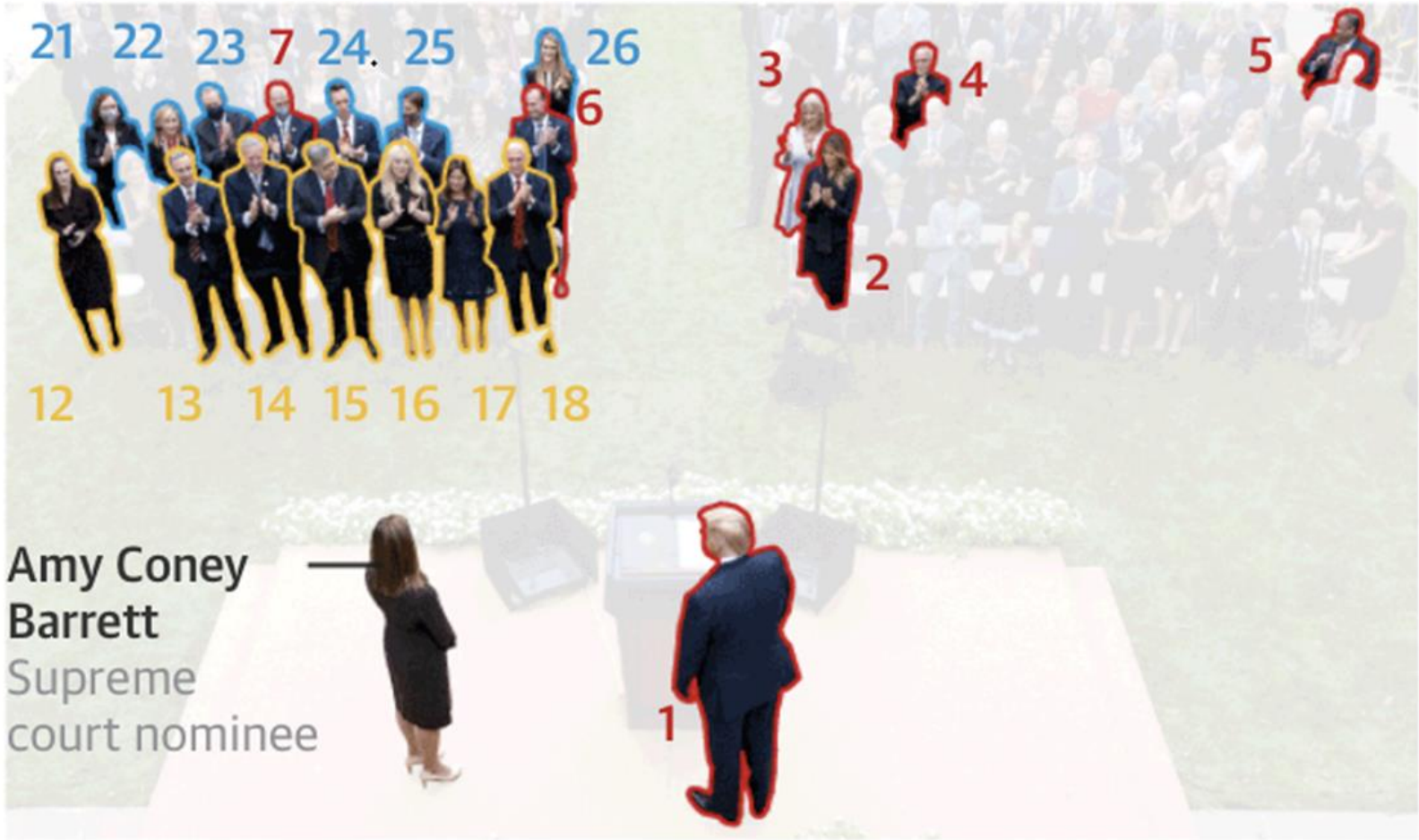


- Resident list
- Staff roster (previous 2 weeks)
- Visitor list (previous 2 weeks)
- Floor plan
- Staff members to assist with resident interview and contact tracing

Some learnings from the Rose Garden...



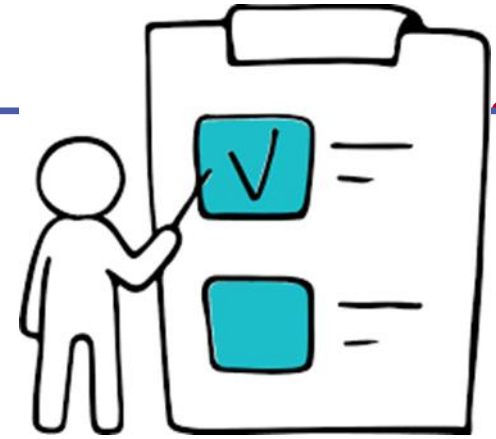
Several people who attended US President Donald Trump's ceremony to announce his nominee to the Supreme Court have contracted COVID-19. (AP: Alex Brandon)



What can my facility do now?

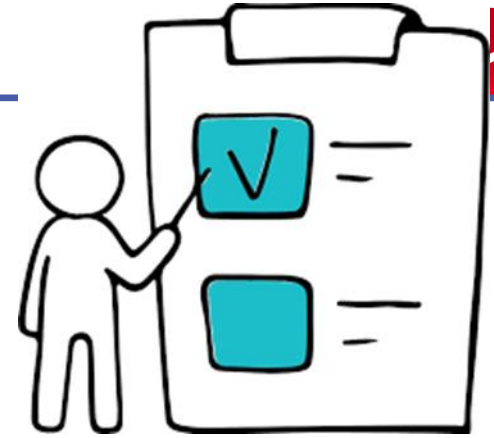
Prevent & Plan!!

- Ongoing screening is essential
- Social distancing and hand hygiene soooooo important
- Up-to-date resident lists (including name, DOB, Aboriginality, location in facility, guardian/family details)
- Teleconferencing &/or videoconferencing capacity



What can my facility do now?

- Consider co-horting staff now
- e.g. meal breaks, wings
- Ensure legible staff rosters (including contact details for agency nurses)
- Electronic lists of visitors recorded each day including name, contact details, time in/out
- Consider planning an exercise
- Daily resident screening and recording this on a line list



Questions all facilities should consider



- Do I have enough PPE to put all of my residents in droplet precautions for at least 3 days? Which staff member would be responsible for putting this into action?
- Where will all of the PPE waste go?
- What role are your GPs going to play in your outbreak. Have you had these discussion with your GP?
- Who would send information through to public health
- Do I have all of my communication templates ready for staff, families, residents?

Questions all facilities should consider



- If the manager, receptionist or head cleaner was away is there someone who could easily step into their role?
- If 30% of staff are requested to isolate as they were close contacts is there enough information for new staff to adequately look after residents?
- What strategies are in place for resident and staff wellbeing during this time?
- How will my facility manage 3 COVID cases –where in the facility you would look after them, what would be your dirty & clean areas, entry & exit points

Questions all facilities should consider



- Do you feel confident that PPE will still be done appropriately 1 week into an outbreak? How will you manage PPE & infection control fatigue?

Latest Victorian healthcare worker numbers

Updated: 06 October 2020 02:39pm

43

Active healthcare
worker cases

3538

Total healthcare worker
cases

16

Healthcare worker cases
in the last week

2571

Healthcare worker cases
acquired in the workplace

71

Furloughed hospital
staff

3493

Recovered healthcare
workers

Resources



First 24 hours – Managing COVID-19 in a Residential Aged Care Facility

https://www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2020/07/first-24-hours-managing-covid-19-in-a-residential-aged-care-facility-first-24-hours-managing-covid-19-in-a-residential-aged-care-facility_1.pdf

CDNA National Guidelines for the Prevention, Control and Public Health Management of COVID-19 in Residential Care Facilities in Australia

<https://www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2020/07/cdna-national-guidelines-for-the-prevention-control-and-public-health-management-of-covid-19-outbreaks-in-residential-care-facilities-in-australia.pdf>

Victorian DHHS HCW data

<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/victorian-healthcare-worker-covid-19-data>



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