

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Health

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

Australian Government's Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

4 August 2020

PDR Number: IQ20-000423

Number of COVID-19 cases in the 10 Aged Care facilities

Spoken

Hansard Page number: 12

Senator: Rachel Siewert

Question: How many residents are there now with COVID in the 10 facilities and how many deaths have there been in those particular facilities?

Answer:

As at 4 August 2020 (date of Senate Select Committee hearing), the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission had taken compliance action by issuing a Notice to Agree (NTA) to ten (10) aged care services in relation to COVID-19. Of the 10 services where an NTA was issued, a total of 403 consumers had contracted COVID-19 and 75 of these residents have died.

Residential Aged Care Facility	Notices to Agree issued	Resident COVID-19 infections	Resident deaths
Essendon Aged Care	16 July 2020	13	7
Estia Health Heidelberg West	21 July 2020	25	4
St Basil's Home for the Aged in Victoria	26 July 2020	63	16
Estia Health Ardeer	26 July 2020	35	14
Epping Gardens	28 July 2020	77	13
Outlook Gardens Aged Care	29 July 2020	35	0
Kirkbrae Kilsyth Nursing Home and Kirkbrae Kilsyth Hostel	29 July 2020	49	8
Baptcare Wyndham Lodge Community	30 July 2020	39	5
Glendale Aged Care	30 July 2020	27	8
Rosehill Aged Care Facility	4 August 2020	40	0
		403	75

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4 August 2020

PDR Number: IQ20-000426

Aged Care facilities outside Melbourne and Mitchell Shire with current outbreaks:

Spoken

Hansard Page number: 17

Senator: Perin Davey

Question:

Senator DAVEY: I want to go some way to better understanding the outbreak in aged-care facilities as it has occurred in regional Victoria. Of the 97 residential aged-care facilities that currently have an outbreak, how many are outside Melbourne and the Mitchell Shire regions?

Ms Laffan: We'd have to take that on notice, but, just from my memory, a large proportion are in those areas that you mentioned.

Prof. Murphy: I'm only aware of one significant outbreak at the moment, and that's in Geelong. We can take that on notice to be certain. The only outbreak that is of any concern to us is the one in Geelong.

Answer:

As at 10 August 2020, there were 109 active COVID-19 cases in residential aged care facilities in Australia. Of the 109 active COVID-19 cases, 13 are located outside of Melbourne and the Mitchell Shire.

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4 August 2020

PDR Number: IQ20-000429

Guidelines for Support Payments:

Spoken

Hansard Page number: 22

Senator: Katy Gallagher

Question:

CHAIR: You're going to have some support funding, and that was going to be announced in coming days. Has that been announced and what are the details of that?

Senator Colbeck: I think that the grant guidelines for that were put onto the department's website last night.

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Senator Colbeck: I need to correct something. I've just had a note put under my nose to say that those guidelines didn't go up because of their interactions with the paid pandemic leave announcements last night. I will provide you with advice as soon as they do. I just want to correct that.

Answer:

- The Support for Aged Care Workers in COVID-19 (SACWIC) Grant Opportunity is designed to minimise the risk of infection to aged care workers, residents and other consumers of aged care service.
- On 4 August 2020, the Grant Opportunity Guidelines for the 'GO4215 – Support for Aged Care Workers in COVID-19' grant program were published on the GrantConnect website at www.grants.gov.au.
- Eligible approved Residential Aged Care providers, approved National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program providers and approved Home Care providers are able to apply.
- The Grant Opportunity is limited to Greater Melbourne and Mitchell Shire.
- The SACWIC grant will also enable eligible approved providers to implement the decision by the Fair Work Commission in relation to Paid Pandemic Leave for the Aged Care Award 2020, the Nurses Award 2020 and Health Professionals and Support Services Award (2020) (Health Professionals Award).