

Monday, 11 October 2021

Please attribute the following to Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District Chief Executive, Margot Mains:

Our community may have seen the updated advice from NSW Health about visitor restrictions at hospitals. In line with the NSW roadmap, the restrictions on general hospital visitors in NSW health facilities will be lifted.

We fully understand that our community is very keen to resume visiting loved ones in hospital, and our teams are now doing everything they can to enable this to happen as quickly as possible.

We also want to remind our community that our hospitals will remain on the high-risk alert level, therefore we need to ensure the re-opening of general visiting hours is done in a safe and appropriate way.

We will provide details on when general visiting can resume within the next 24 hours.

Patients in a NSW Health hospital will be allowed up to 2 visitors per day as long as the visitor:

- Is at least 12 years of age.
- Has had two doses of a TGA approved COVID-19 vaccine.
- Has evidence of their vaccination status when they enter the facility.
- Wears a surgical mask correctly on entry at the facility and for the duration of the visit.

Please be mindful, coordinating and screening visitors is not a simple process. We are working to balance the expectations of our community and the continued safety of our patients, so please be kind when dealing with staff as we work to re-open hospitals to general visitors.