

MEDIA STATEMENT

21 May 2020

Nursing home residents diagnosed with COVID-19

Four of the new COVID-19 cases (Cases 29516, 29635, 29634 and 29692) announced by the Ministry of Health (MOH) today are residents of the nursing home operated by Orange Valley Nursing Homes (OV) at 6 Simei Street 3. They were confirmed to have COVID-19 infection on 20 May 2020. All four are currently cared for at Changi General Hospital (CGH).

2. The four residents were tested as part of MOH's ongoing surveillance testing of all nursing home residents. As at 20 May 2020, over 10,200 residents have been tested. Of the test results received thus far, all residents have tested negative except for the four OV residents. About 250 test results are pending.

3. The testing of nursing home residents follows MOH's earlier surveillance effort to test all nursing home staff which took place from 28 April 2020 to 8 May 2020. All OV staff were tested for COVID-19 in early May 2020 and they had all tested negative. To minimise their exposure to picking up an infection from the community, their resident-facing staff have also been staying at designated hotels since 8 May 2020 and taken the necessary precautions when commuting to and from work.

4. After the four cases were detected, as an added precaution, we have also tested the close contacts of the affected residents for COVID-19 infection. These include the staff who had tested negative earlier in early May. All these tests were also negative.

5. OV has complied with enhanced precautionary measures in line with prevailing MOH advisories, such as disallowing visitors to the nursing home, strictly adhering to split-zone requirements and ensuring safe distancing. With the confirmed cases, OV has also thoroughly cleaned and disinfected the ward and affected areas of the nursing home, and will enhance the usage of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) among staff.

6. MOH and Agency for Integrated Care are working closely with OV to support them and monitor the situation. Contact tracing is ongoing to identify and quarantine the close contacts of the residents. We will also support OV to ensure continuity of care for their residents during this period if required.

###

Media contact

For enquiries, please email corpcomms@aic.sg

About the Agency for Integrated Care

The Agency for Integrated Care (AIC) aims to create a vibrant care community for people to live well and age gracefully. AIC coordinates and supports efforts in integrating care to achieve the best care outcomes for our clients. We reach out to caregivers and seniors with information on staying active and ageing well, and connect people to services they need. We support stakeholders in their efforts to raise the quality of care, and also work with health and social care partners to provide services for the ageing population. Our work in the community brings care services and information closer to those in need. For more about us, please visit www.aic.sg

Translation of key terms

1. Agency for Integrated Care: 护联中心
2. Orange Valley Nursing Homes: 旺年护理之家