

MEDIA STATEMENT

26 June 2020

Senior care centre staff diagnosed with COVID-19

One of the COVID-19 cases (case 42987) announced by the Ministry of Health (MOH) today is a staff from Vanguard Senior Care Centre Woodlands. She was confirmed to have COVID-19 infection on 25 June 2020 and is currently cared for at the National Centre for Infectious Diseases (NCID). She has not displayed any symptoms. The staff also underwent a serological test, which was positive, indicating a likely past infection.

2. The staff was identified during MOH's surveillance testing of non-residential eldercare staff which began on 3 June 2020. As of 26 June 2020, over 5,500 staff have been tested (out of an estimated 5,700 staff), and this case has come back positive.

3. The staff has been mostly working from home since the Circuit Breaker period with the closure of the centre, and was last at the centre on 25 June. While the centre is located in the same building as Vanguard Woodlands Care Home, both facilities are served by separate staff teams which have not had any contact since before Circuit Breaker. This staff also does not have contact with the staff and clients involved in the centre's Community Rehabilitation (CR) services which resumed on 15 June 2020.

4. Contact tracing is ongoing and those who had close contact with the staff will be quarantined and tested. Vanguard Senior Care Centre Woodlands has been implementing precautionary measures in line with prevailing MOH advisories, including stringent safe distancing measures and continued telecommuting for the majority of the centre's staff. The centre has also conducted a thorough cleaning and disinfection in preparation for the resumption of services on 29 June 2020.

5. We are working to provide Vanguard Healthcare with the support during this period if required, to ensure the continuity of care for their clients. We will continue to monitor the situation closely together with MOH.

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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. Vanguard Senior Care Centre Woodlands: 先锋乐龄护理中心（兀兰）
3. Vanguard Woodlands Care Home: 兀兰养生居
4. Vanguard Healthcare: 先锋保健集团