

## BULLETIN BOARD

May 2022

### Disability Updates and helpful ideas and resources:

#### eBility Blog



The eBility blog is full of useful information on accessible vehicles, mobility aids, equipment, and assistive technology to help you live your best life!

Take a look at:

- Information about disability aids and equipment that can allow you to live independently
- Assistive technology that can help you do the things you need to
- Adaptive living and home modifications to make getting around easier
- Accessible vehicles and how to get your licence... and so much more! Read more on the [eBility blog](#).

### Change of upcoming Bendigo Clinic:

Please note that Polio Services Victoria (PSV) scheduled meeting for 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> June will be rescheduled to the first half of next year -2023.

The PSV team has a clinic planned for **Ballarat on 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> November**. They will be offering a larger clinic and encourage people living in the Bendigo area to attend the Ballarat clinic.

*Please call*

Denise Currie 9231 3845  
Coordinator Polio Services Victoria  
Senior Occupational Therapist Community Rehabilitation  
Health Independence Programs St Vincent's Melbourne

## Disability News from Australia:

### [Anti-vax parents leaving children with disabilities unprotected from COVID-19](#)

5 May 2022

*Brisbane Times*

Children on the National Disability Insurance Scheme are more likely to be unvaccinated against COVID-19 than their peers, as providers and health authorities grapple with parental hesitancy.

### [Election 2022: Coalition and Labor both rule out NDIS levy](#) [Paywall content]

4 May 2022

*The Australian*

Neither Labor nor the Coalition will increase the Medicare levy to cover the cost of the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

### [Younger people in aged care is a problem: will the government keep its stated commitment?](#)

4 May 2022

*ProBono Australia*

Warehousing people with disability under 65 in nursing homes that are not resourced to meet their needs is a waste of human potential, argue Di Winkler and Peter Mulherin.

## The winter virus surge is looming:

Surges in COVID-19, influenza and other respiratory viruses could overload the primary health system in 2022.

Where practices and other health services are not equipped to see patients with mild respiratory issues face to face, **GP respiratory clinics** can – and they now operate at many locations across metropolitan Melbourne. If your service can't see patients with respiratory symptoms, or if a booking isn't available, please direct them to [GP respiratory clinics](#). **Do not direct them to hospital** unless it's an emergency.

South eastern Melbourne has five state-funded GPRCs in Casey, Dandenong, Cranbourne, Office and Mentone. View referral details [here](#).

## **IMPORTANT - Covid Update from April 2022 onwards**

### COVID-19

#### Victorian COVID-19 restrictions have changed



Victoria will move into winter with most restrictions removed from 11:59pm, Friday 22 April.

#### Quick overview:

- **Patrons won't be required to have two doses or show their vaccination status** before entering any venue.
- The requirement for venues to **use the Service Victoria app will end.**
- **Close contacts will no longer have to quarantine – provided they wear a mask indoors and avoid sensitive settings.** They will also need to undertake at least five negative rapid tests over the seven days that would previously have been the self-quarantine period.
- **All visitor restrictions in hospitals will be removed except for mask requirements,** with health services able to tailor their own settings based on their own circumstances.
- People are **exempt from testing or quarantine for 12 weeks if they've had COVID-19.**



#### Still in place:

- The essential requirement remains **to isolate for seven days following a COVID-19 diagnosis** and existing two-dose and three-dose vaccination mandates for workers. [Read all the changes to restrictions.](#)

