

11 FEBRUARY 2020

UPDATE ON 2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK – CHANGES TO ADA PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES

Due to the increasing numbers of cases, with evidence of local transmissions, of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus spread, on 7 February 2020, the Singapore government raised the country's risk assessment level from DORSCON Yellow to DORSCON **Orange**. As of today, the Ministry of Health has confirmed a total of 45 cases of the virus across the country.

ADA would like to offer assurance that we are moving in line with current and future changing government measures, and that we deem the care, safety and health of all our persons with dementia, caregivers, volunteers, partner organisations and staff as utmost importance.

In light of the DORSCON Orange code, ADA would like to highlight the necessary changes to our programmes and services.

1. Community-Based Programmes

From **10 February 2020 onwards** and until further notice, ADA will temporarily cease and/or postpone the following community-based and outreach programmes:

Programme	Details
Voices For Hope	With immediate effect, all sessions will be postponed. Participants will be informed of the new dates directly.
Memories Café	With immediate effect, all sessions will be suspended until further notice.
Public Education Talks	With immediate effect, all current engagements will be cancelled. ADA will also not be accepting new requests until further notice.
Dementia Friendly Communities (Kebun Baru, Ang Mo Kio and Bishan-Toa Payoh)	ADA designated staff will continue supporting the communities, following the respective Community Partners' decisions.
Journey with Arts & Dementia (JADe)	Practicum sessions and coaching of trained facilitators will continue only with the agreement from host organisations. Participants will be notified directly.

2. Training Courses

From **10 February 2020 onwards** and until further notice, ADA will temporarily cease and/or postpone sessions held by ADA Academy, including:

*Screenings (on-site; pre-event via phone) include temperature-taking, confirmation of travel history and logging of all visitors.

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Programme	Details
Dementia Care Course for Foreign Domestic Workers	With immediate effect, all upcoming sessions will be suspended until further notice.
Family Caregiver Training Programme	
Training sessions held within ADA premises	With immediate effect, all sessions held within ADA premises (Resource and Training Centre) will be suspended until further notice.
Training sessions held within community partners' premises	These sessions may continue at the Community Partners' discretion, with the implementation of additional precautions such as on-site screenings.

3. Caregiver Support Services

From **10 February 2020 onwards** and until further notice, ADA will temporarily cease and/or postpone the following programmes and services:

Programme	Details
Caregiver Support Groups	With immediate effect, all support group sessions will be rescheduled to a later date. ADA will also suspend any upcoming registrations until further notice.
Eldersit Respite Care Service	With immediate effect, all respite care home visits will be suspended until further notice. ADA will continue accepting referrals, to be placed on waitlist for future assessment.
Person-Centred Home-Based Intervention	With immediate effect, all home visits will be suspended until further notice, with the exception of high-risk clients only. Instead, ADA will provide telephone support for existing clients. ADA will continue accepting referrals (screening, intake and support) via telephone.
Casework & Counselling	
Post-Diagnostic Support	

4. Volunteering

From **1 February 2020 onwards** and until further notice, ADA has ceased and/or postponed all non-essential volunteer events. ADA will also be closing sign-ups for new volunteers until further notice.

5. ADA Café

ADA Café, located at Agape Village, will continue operating as per usual, or until further notice. Customers going to the Café will be subjected to on-site screenings* at the main gate of Agape Village before entering the premises.

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6. New Horizon Centres (NHC) and Family of Wisdom (FOW) Centres

All Centre facilities are still open and operating as per usual, or until further notice. However, clients who wish to temporarily cease attending their respective Centres are free to do so. With immediate effect, all events and outings for clients will also be suspended.

ADA will be implementing a strict protocol of on-site screenings* for all clients, caregivers and visitors.

We thank you for your cooperation and patience while we try our best to reduce the risks of infection, especially amongst our vulnerable clients, and we apologise for any inconveniences caused due to these measures.

For more information of any of the programmes and services affected, please call the ADA Helpline at **6377 0700**.

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