

# Isolated in care ..two years on

BY LUCY THORNTON

**RESIDENTS** are still being isolated in care homes causing "great distress", say campaigners.

A group is fighting to stop Covid restrictions on visits imposed by units and local health teams, saying they go beyond Government guidance.

Many are told only the same relative can visit each time, yet official rules state this can be a different relative.

The action involves Relatives & Residents Association, Rights for Residents and Dr Caroline Emmer De Albu-

## Fury at restrictions over family visiting

querque Green of King's College London. They insist barriers two years on are "causing harm to residents and their loved ones".

One daughter, an essential care-giver, told them: "The pressure is so distressing.

"It is ruining my life and

relationships. I can't sleep, it overshadows everything I do."

Jenny Morrison, from Rights for Residents, said: "The voices of care home residents are still not being heard."

Helen Wildbore, from the Relatives & Residents Association, said: "People living in care have been left behind."

Dr Caroline added: "People in care homes have a right to social participation."

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PAIN Loved ones

## Fears of a 'Covid winter'

BY MARTIN BAGOT Health Editor

THERE are fears of a winter Covid wave after hospital admissions surged by 48% in a week.

The seven-day average of 7,024 in England came after the NHS recently opted to test only those with symptoms of the virus. It suggests the real number could be higher. The

UK Health Security Agency said the rate testing positive for Covid in hospital was 7.62 per 100,000, up from 4.96 the previous week. The R rate is now at a year's high above 1.2.

UKHSA's Dr Mary Ramsay said: "We expect a threat of low immunity for flu and Covid-19, creating additional pressure on services."