



Information for Quarantine Centre Workers

On 18 February 2021, the State Emergency Coordinator of Western Australia signed the Presentation for Testing (Quarantine Centre Workers) Directions (No 6). These Directions require certain persons who work in a quarantine centre to present for COVID-19 testing.

This fact sheet presents a summary only of the obligations arising under the Directions. The signed Direction is available at <https://www.wa.gov.au>.

Presentation for Testing (Quarantine Centre Workers) Directions (No 6)

You have been provided this information as you are a quarantine centre worker as defined in the Presentation for Testing (Quarantine Centre Worker) Directions (No 6), effective from 12.01 am on 19 February 2021.

A quarantine centre worker is any person who works within a State managed quarantine centre for the quarantining of people for public health purposes in connection with COVID-19 or who knowingly has direct contact with a person in a quarantine centre who is subject to quarantine requirements, including:

- a person providing security, cleaning, hotel reception, food and beverage, hotel maintenance, medical, health or other ancillary services, including welfare related services, at a quarantine centre;
- Police officers who are deployed at quarantine centres; and
- members of the Australian Defence Force who are deployed at quarantine centres.

The Direction does not apply to quarantine centre drivers.

Testing requirements

These include:

- compliance with the **seven day presentation protocol**, which involves presenting at a COVID Clinic for testing (nasopharyngeal swab) every seven days on an ongoing basis:
 - until the completion of your final shift;
 - until 14 days after your last direct contact with a person in a quarantine centre who is subject to quarantine requirements; or
 - before commencing a period of leave or absence of more than 4 days; and
- compliance with the **shift presentation protocol** on each day you work a shift at a

quarantine centre, which involves going to the place at the quarantine centre where mouth swabs are collected.

Note: As a quarantine centre worker you are not required to comply with the shift presentation protocol if your shift falls on a day that you receive a nasopharyngeal test for COVID-19 after having complied with either the seven day presentation protocol or the absence presentation protocol.

Seven day presentation protocol - nose and throat swab test

As a quarantine centre worker to whom these directions apply, you must present for testing within 7 days after the most recent date on which you:

- were last tested after presenting for 7 day testing;
- completed your first shift at a quarantine centre;
- completed your first shift at a quarantine centre after a period of leave or absence of more than 4 days; or
- last knowingly had direct contact with a person in a quarantine centre who is subject to quarantine requirements.

See 'COVID-19 testing locations' below for places where the weekly nose and throat swab test can be done.

Shift presentation protocol - mouth swab at each shift

As a quarantine centre worker, you will also be required to complete a self-collected mouth swab at every shift, except for the day that you have a nose and throat swab. You do not need to collect a mouth swab on days that you are not at work. If you develop symptoms of COVID-19 then you should not have a mouth swab.

You will be provided a mouth swab self-collection kit at each shift to complete the test. The test involves placing a swab in your mouth for 20 seconds. Detailed instructions about how to do this test will be provided at your workplace and on the instructions sheet in your collection kit. The mouth swab will only be tested for COVID-19.

Leave requirements

As a quarantine centre worker, if you are on leave or otherwise absent for a period of more than 4 days (excluding persons who cease to be quarantine centre workers) you must comply with the **absence presentation protocol** on:

- the day on which you undertake your last shift at a quarantine centre before commencing your period of leave or absence;
- on each of the third, seventh and tenth days after the date of your last shift, unless you are no longer on leave on the relevant day; and

- the day on which you undertake your first shift after returning from a period of leave or absence.

The places where you can present for testing will vary depending upon what day of the protocol you are on.

If you are presenting for testing on the day of your first shift back from a period of leave or absence you must present to a quarantine centre for testing (mouth swab).

If you are presenting for testing on the last day before you start leave, or on day 3, 7 or 10 of your leave or absence you must present to a COVID clinic or to a hospital emergency department (nasopharyngeal swab).

End of employment requirements

If you cease employment as a quarantine centre worker you must comply with the **end of employment presentation protocol** on:

- the day on which you undertake your last shift at a quarantine centre before ending your employment, or, in the event that you do not cease to be a quarantine centre worker until a day that is a different day to the day on which you completed your last shift, within 24 hours after the day on which you cease to be a quarantine centre worker (the **cessation day**); and
- on each of the third, seventh, tenth and fourteenth days after the cessation day.

Exemptions to testing

You are **not** required to present for testing under the Presentation for Testing (Quarantine Centre Workers) Directions (No 6) if you are:

- not in WA on the day you are required to present for testing;
- given a direction to quarantine at a quarantine centre or hospital; or
- required to quarantine or isolate under the Quarantine and Isolation (Undiagnosed) Directions (No 2) or the Isolation (Diagnosed) Directions (No 2).

Requirement to isolate

While waiting for your test result you **can** continue to work and undertake your daily activities, unless you have symptoms at the time of the test or are directed otherwise. The people with whom you live **can** continue to work and undertake their daily activities.

COVID Clinics

You can attend any of the following COVID clinics for your seven day nose & throat swab. When you arrive at the COVID clinic please inform the clinic that you are a quarantine centre worker. Metropolitan COVID clinics generally have shorter wait times after 2pm.

In addition, COVID clinics for quarantine centre workers **ONLY** are open at the Novotel Perth, 388 Murray Street, which can be accessed via Shafto Lane, and the Hyatt Hotel, which is accessed via Adelaide Terrace. Normal operation hours for the clinics are:

- 0700 - 1600 hours Sunday-Thursday.
- 0700 - 2000 hours Friday and Saturday

These clinics are for weekly nose and throat swabs and are **only** available for quarantine centre workers without any COVID-19 symptoms.

Metropolitan COVID clinics

- Armadale Health Service, Ground Floor, 3056 Albany Highway, Mount Nasura
- Fiona Stanley Hospital, Bedbrook Row, North-eastern end of hospital, Murdoch
- Joondalup Hospital, Car Park P4, Regents Park Road, Joondalup
- Royal Perth Hospital, Ground Floor, Ainslie House, 48 Murray Street, Perth
- Rockingham General Hospital, Elanora Drive, Cooloongup
- Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, C Block, Hospital Avenue, Nedlands
- St John of God Midland Hospital, Yelverton Drive, Midland

Regional COVID clinics

- Broome Hospital, Corner of Anne and Robinson Streets, Broome
- Bunbury Health Campus, Bussell Highway (cnr Robertson Drive; 30m left of the main entrance)
- Kununurra District Hospital, 96 Coolibah Drive, Kununurra

Regional hospital Emergency Departments

- Albany Regional Hospital
- Geraldton Regional Hospital
- Port Hedland Regional Hospital (Hedland Health Campus)
- Kalgoorlie Regional Hospital
- Any emergency department of a public hospital that is located outside of the Perth metropolitan area and is not specified above.

Please take a legible form of identification (**ID**) such as your driver's licence so the clinic can validate your name and date of birth. Please also take your work ID. It is also important to be able to provide a mobile phone number so your results can be sent to you.

Further details, including opening hours of these clinics, are available at: https://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/Articles/A_E/COVID-clinics.

Further details, including contact details of regional clinics are available at: <https://healthywa.wa.gov.au/-/media/HWA/Documents/Health-conditions/COVID19/COVID19-where-to-get-tested-in-regional-and-remote-WA.pdf>

If you develop symptoms of COVID-19

If you develop symptoms of COVID-19, including fever, respiratory symptoms such as cough, sore throat or runny nose, or loss of smell or taste, you must call 13 COVID (13 268 43). During office hours, you may call the Department of Health's Public Health Emergency Operations Centre (**PHEOC**) directly on 1300 316 555 (8am-5pm, 7 days a week). Report your symptoms and comply with any instruction given.

Results

You will be advised of a test result by text message within three business days of your test. If you had your test done at one of the above listed COVID clinics and have not received a test result within three business days, you can call 1800 313 223 between Monday and Friday from 8am to 4pm to enquire about your test result. If you have been tested in a regional or remote area, please be aware that there may be a delay in receiving your results.

Evidence of a COVID-19 test

You must retain evidence of every test you have for COVID-19. You will be provided with the opportunity to photograph the pathology form when you have a test and store this on your phone as a record of your attendance.

If you test positive

If you receive a positive result from a COVID-19 test you must isolate in accordance with the Isolation (Diagnosed) Directions (No 2). You are not able to continue working. A member of PHEOC will contact you to advise what action to take. They will seek to identify who you have been in close contact with whilst you were potentially infectious. This is known as contact tracing.

You will only be permitted to stop isolation and resume your usual activities when you are officially released from isolation by the PHEOC.

Refusal to present for COVID-19 testing

If you fail to comply with the Presentation for Testing (Quarantine Centre Worker) Directions (No 6) it may be an offence, which is punishable by imprisonment for up to 12 months or a fine of up to \$50,000 for individuals and \$250,000 for bodies corporate.

Last updated 23 February 2021

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with disability. © Department of Health 2021