



# PHEOC BULLETIN #73

**Tuesday 3 August 2021 14:00 Hours**

This bulletin has been authorised by the Deputy PHEOC Coordinator, Dr Revle Bangor-Jones

## COVID-19 case and vaccination numbers

The latest advice from the Chief Health Officer

- **Summary:** as of **Tuesday 3 August**, in Western Australia (WA), there have been:
  - **1,058** confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified
  - 99 historical cases of COVID-19 notified
  - **1,039** people recover from COVID-19
  - **1,524,097** COVID-19 tests conducted
- **WA:** [Daily snapshot & Vaccination dashboard](#)
- **National:** [Current National Status & Australia's vaccine roll-out](#)
- **Worldwide:** [WHO Situation Reports & WHO Dashboard](#)

## Living with COVID

### Chief Health Officer advice

The latest advice from the Chief Health Officer is available [here](#).

- [22 July 2021](#) - Controlled Border Controls – South Australia
- [20 July 2021](#) - Controlled Border – South Australia

### Healthcare settings IPC guidelines update

The *Coronavirus Disease - 2019 (COVID-19) Infection Prevention and Control in Western Australian Healthcare Facilities* document includes an updated section (12.2) regarding lift management practices. Health care facilities (HCFs) are required to have a designated person oversee and control the lift until it can be returned to service.

Pre-existing principles guiding patient transport within HCFs have been strengthened, including cordoning of impacted areas along the route and the PPE requirements for staff and the patient.

All HCFs should undertake regular scenario testing and planning, which must be well documented.

Refer to the section 12 of the [resource](#) for further information.

### Notice to Shipping

The WA Government has released a statement outlining the COVID-19 protocols and standards for commercial vessels arriving at WA ports.

The statement outlines the expectations of the WA government in relation to the shipping industry to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 on board vessels entering WA ports.

To date, no cases of COVID-19 on a vessel at a WA port has resulted in community transmission.

Refer to the [document](#) for further information.

## South Australia to medium risk

Following updated health advice, as of 12:00pm 22 July 2021 South Australia transitioned from a 'low risk' jurisdiction to a 'medium risk' jurisdiction under the [controlled border](#) arrangement. Refer to the [announcement](#) and [media statement](#) for further information.

Anyone who arrived prior to 12:00pm 22 July 2021 should continue to comply with the Directions provided to them upon entry. See the requirements under the 'low risk' settings in the [announcement](#).

Travellers who have been in South Australia recently should continue to monitor the listed [exposure sites](#) in case additional locations are added. Queries should be referred to 13 COVID (13 26843).

Masks should be worn when transiting to a self-quarantine premises and presenting for COVID-19 testing. [COVID clinic](#) information is available on HealthyWA.

## Jurisdiction risk rating

South Australia, New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland are considered 'medium risk'. Australian Capital Territory is considered 'low risk'. Northern Territory, Tasmania and New Zealand are considered 'very low risk'. For more information on WA's border arrangement, see the WA Government's controlled interstate border [webpage](#).

## Vessel management

WA Health is currently managing two vessels, the BBC California and the MV Darya Krishna, berthed at Fremantle Port with confirmed cases of COVID-19 among crew.

# Community

## Contact registers

The WA Government recently announced there are over two million users of the free [SafeWA app](#), with over 300 million scans since its launch.

[Contact registers](#) are an important tool in managing COVID-19 outbreaks. They allow the Public Health team (contact tracers) to identify people who may have been exposed to COVID-19 while in the community and the SafeWA app is a very quick and efficient way to collect this information. This was highlighted during the recent cluster of local community cases in Perth that were linked to the NSW outbreak.

All businesses and venues are encouraged to provide contact registers. The WA government has developed a [best practice guide](#) to help businesses ensure visitors are checking in on entry. This includes:

- displaying signs clearly and prominently
- adding reminders around the venue (in bathrooms, at the counter, on menus etc.)
- using posters and other free assets available online
- providing digital and manual options.

We all have a part to play in keeping WA safe. If you are a business owner, make sure your contact register is easy to access and if you're a visitor to a venue, make sure you check in.

## Contact register resources:

- [Stakeholder Toolkit](#), including manual contact register templates, posters and digital content
- SafeWA guide for [businesses](#)
- [Translated](#) contact register information.

# COVID-19 vaccination program

## COVID vaccination blitz

Western Australians are urged to book an appointment for a vaccination as soon as they are eligible, to help protect ourselves, our families and our communities from COVID-19.

The WA Government announced the commencement of a vaccination 'blitz' on 3 August 2021. All 30-39 year olds who had previously registered on [VaccinateWA](#) can book appointments from today. This will open to all other 30-39 year olds from Monday 9 August, with a two week vaccination 'blitz' from 16-29 August.

See the [media release](#) for further information.

## TGA change in vaccination guidelines for children 12-15 years

While the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has approved use of the Pfizer vaccine for children aged 12-15 years, this cohort is not yet eligible to receive a vaccine.

WA Health does not have confirmation as to when the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) and the Australian Government are likely to make a decision regarding eligibility for this age group.

When the Australian Government and ATAGI advise that this age group is eligible, information will be published on the Roll Up for WA [website](#) and messaged through media.

See the TGA [announcement](#) for further information.

## New community clinics

**Perth CBD** Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, 21 Mounts Bay Road Perth, short walk from Elizabeth Quay train station.  
Operating from 16 August and offering Pfizer and open Monday - Friday.

**Midland** Centrepoint Shopping Centre, 307 Great Eastern Highway Midland, short walk from Midland train station. (Replacing Redcliffe).  
Operating from 6 September and offering Pfizer and open 7 days a week.

**Busselton** Youth and Community Activities Building, 21 Foreshore Parade.  
Open every Tuesday and Friday and offering Pfizer.

**Manjimup** Manjimup Town Hall, 37-39 Rose Street.  
Operating from 29 July and offering Pfizer every Thursday.

Existing [Community clinics](#) in WA include Claremont Showgrounds, Joondalup, Kwinana, Redcliffe and Bunbury.

The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is now being rolled out to, and administered by, General Practitioners (GPs) in WA. Approved pharmacies can also now administer the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine for eligible populations. Participating GPs and pharmacies can be found by using the [COVID-19 Vaccine Eligibility Checker](#).

## Vaccine information and resources

Please visit the sources below for more information and resources related to vaccines:

- Requests for [alternative COVID-19 vaccine](#)
- HealthyWA - [COVID-19 Vaccine](#) (for WA community) including [FAQs](#)
- WA Health - [COVID-19 Vaccination Program](#) (for WA health providers)
- Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) - workplace [information](#) about the COVID-19 vaccine FAQs (general information for businesses and employers)
- The Australian Government - [COVID-19 Vaccines hub](#)

- [Rollup for WA](#) and [Rollup for WA posters](#).

## Directions updates

COVID-19 State of Emergency [Declarations](#) and community [advice](#) summarises the latest COVID-19 Directions that are in place in WA. Further information can be found on WA Government [website](#).

### New Directions:

[Outbreak Outside of Western Australia Response Directions \(No 3\)](#)

[Presentation for Testing Directions \(No 31\)](#)

[Contact Register Directions \(No 3\)](#)

[Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions \(No 35\)](#)

## Updated fact sheets

[Testing criteria for SARS-CoV-2 in Western Australia #32](#)

[COVID-19 infection prevention and control in Western Australian healthcare facilities version 10](#)

[Transport of exposed maritime workers](#)

[Exposed vessels](#)

[COVID-19 outbreak management principles for industrial facilities](#)

[Aboriginal sector communication update #23](#)

[Communication pathway for vessels with concern of COVID-19](#)

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) FAQ's](#)

## Testing

### Presentation for Testing Directions

Amendments to the Presentation for Testing Directions have come into effect. Significant changes include the requirement for certain return travellers to present for testing:

- on day 6 after arrival for all people who are subject to modified quarantine directions or the government official requirements
- on day 12 after arrival (to replace Day 11 testing)
- post-quarantine (days 17 and 21).

Refer to the [Directions](#) for further information.

### General population [testing criteria](#)

The [Testing criteria for SARS-CoV-2 in Western Australia #32](#) has been published in response to changes in [Directions](#).

Refer to the Department of Health [website](#) for further information.

Any person may be tested if they have any one of the following clinical criteria: fever ( $\geq 37.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) OR history of fever (e.g. night sweats, chills), without a known source **OR** acute respiratory symptoms (e.g. shortness of breath, cough, sore throat, runny nose) **OR** acute loss of smell or taste.

### Testing locations

Testing locations are listed on [HealthyWA](#).

### Reporting

Notify suspected COVID-19 cases by completing the notification form either [ONLINE](#) or by printing out the notification form.

## Series of National Guidelines (SoNG)

The [latest](#) iteration was released on 24 June 2021.

## Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC)

The [Australian Health Protection Principal Committee \(AHPPC\)](#) is the key decision-making committee for health emergencies. It is comprised of all state and territory Chief Health Officers and is chaired by the Australian Chief Medical Officer. The AHPPC has an ongoing role to advise the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC) on health protection matters and national priorities. AHPPC is also tasked with the role of mitigating emerging health threats related to infectious diseases, the environment as well as natural and human made disasters. The AHPPC has released the following statement recently:

- [26 July 2021](#) – Statement on minimising the potential risk of COVID-19 transmission in schools

## Business and industry

### Resources for more information

- [WA Department of Health](#) and [HealthyWA](#)
- [Department of Health Media Releases](#)
- [Australian Government Health Department](#)
- [Advice for the public \(WHO\)](#)
- [Advice in other languages](#) and [Translated Resources](#)
- [Advice for Aboriginal people](#)
- [Covid Clinic walkthrough](#) – in multiple languages

## Who to contact for more information

- COVID-19 Clinic ONLY Test Results Enquiry Line: 1800 313 223 (Note: NOT for GP referred testing or private pathology clinic tests)
- COVID-19 WA Public Information Line: 132 6843 (13 COVID)
- COVID-19 Travel Restrictions Exemption Application: Visit the [G2G PASS](#) website
- COVID-19 WA Police Line: 131 444 To report breaches of: self-quarantine, business activities, border controls and other State of Emergency Directions

**Next advice** - The PHEOC Bulletin is issued weekly. Next issue: **Tuesday 10 Aug 2021**.

Last updated **3 August 2021**

**This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with disability.**

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