



# SHICC PUBLIC HEALTH BULLETIN #21

**Tuesday, 26 April 2022 16:00 Hours**

This bulletin has been authorised by the Deputy Incident Controller – Public Health,  
Dr Revle Bangor-Jones

## COVID-19 case and vaccination numbers

- **Summary:** as of **Tuesday, 26** April, in Western Australia (WA), there have been:
  - **355,277** confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified
  - **310,847** people recovered from COVID-19
  - **3,349,488** COVID-19 PCR tests conducted
- **WA:** [Daily snapshot](#), [Vaccination dashboard](#) and [WA COVID-19 data update](#)
- **National:** [Current National Status & Australia's vaccine roll-out](#)
- **Worldwide:** [WHO Situation Reports](#) and [WHO Dashboard](#)

## Living with COVID

### Chief Health Officer advice

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

### Easing of PHSMs

Based on the latest health advice, the existing Level 1 public health and social measures will be eased.

From 12.01am Friday, 29 April 2022 new baseline PHSMs will be introduced. Key changes include:

- Face masks no longer mandatory except in high risk settings. Masks encouraged where physical distancing is not possible.
- Density and capacity limits removed for gatherings, venues and events
- Proof of vaccination requirements removed for venues and businesses, however still required for hospitals and residential aged care facilities
- Asymptomatic close contacts no longer required to isolate, subject to strict protocols
- Changes for domestic and international arrivals into WA; removal of requirement for G2G Pass registration
- Remaining public health measures in school and early childhood measures removed; more RATs to be provided.

Mandatory workplace vaccination requirements will remain.

Refer to [WA.gov.au](http://WA.gov.au) for the [announcement](#) and [Directions](#) (once available) for more information.

### Influenza and COVID-19

With the WA borders reopening and the easing of PHSMs, an increase of influenza is expected in 2022. Frequently asked questions have been developed to address [questions](#) regarding influenza, COVID-19 and vaccination.

Further information about [influenza](#) and [COVID-19](#) is available at [HealthyWA](#).

## 7-day isolation requirement

The calculation of the 7-day isolation requirements for COVID-19 cases has been updated. The 7-day isolation period means 7 complete days after the day and time you became a case. This means 7 x 24 hours.

For example, if you became a case at 11.45pm on 14 April 2022, your isolation period will not finish until 11.45 pm on 21 April 2022.

Information for confirmed cases is available on [HealthyWA](#).

Following the easing of public health and social measures from this Friday, asymptomatic close contacts will not need to isolate, subject to strict conditions (see above).

## Registering a patient's positive RAT

The WA Health [Framework for System Alert and Response](#) (SAR) outlines when hospital staff are to administer a rapid antigen test (RAT) or a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test.

All positive RAT results must be:

- registered via the HealthyWA [website](#) or, if unable to access the online register, by phoning 13 COVID (13 26843)
- recorded in the hospital patient administration system.

## COVID-19 and travel

COVID-safe travel advice has been [published](#) on the HealthyWA [website](#).

The information available includes planning and preparing for your trip, what to do if you become unwell or a COVID-19 confirmed case or close contact while travelling (including accommodation and transportation advice) and testing information.

## Patient information sheets

Patient COVID-19 [information sheets](#) includes guidelines for [breastfeeding](#), [pregnancy](#), women in [labour](#), [diabetes](#) and other endocrine conditions, FAQs for [mental health services](#).

Printable patient [information sheets](#) for the immunocompromised have been developed by South Metropolitan Health Services to provide advice on how to stay safe, including during social gatherings.

## People at greater risk of serious illness

Information for people who are at greater risk of serious illness from COVID-19 is available on the HealthyWA [website](#).

The risk of serious COVID-19 illness increases if you're pregnant (and meet certain criteria), obese, living with multiple health conditions, have a disability, are 70 years of age or older or are Aboriginal. Information is available about how to reduce your risk of serious illness, treatment options and what to do if you become a COVID-19 case.

## COVID-19 vaccination program

### Term 2 primary school pop-up clinics for 5 to 11-year-olds

The focus on vaccinating children aged 5 to 11-year-olds continues with some metropolitan Perth primary schools hosting pop-up COVID-19 vaccination clinics during Term 2. Expressions of interest were sought from schools, with the first clinics scheduled to start in early May for eligible students and families in those schools.

## New 'You've got Questions' video resources available

Eleven new videos for parents of children aged 5 to 11 years have been added to the Roll up for WA [website](#). These videos feature Professor Chris Blyth and Professor Desiree Silva and address many common concerns parents have about COVID-19 and vaccination for this age group.

## Bookings available for winter booster at state-run clinics

People eligible for the COVID-19 winter booster dose can now book an appointment via VaccinateWA or walk into state-run clinics to receive the vaccine or book at participating GPs, pharmacies and Aboriginal Medical Services.

Read the ATAGI [statement](#) about recommendations for a winter booster dose of COVID-19 vaccine.

## Vaccine information and resources

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

- HealthyWA – [COVID-19 vaccine](#) (for WA community), including [FAQs](#)
- WA Health – [COVID-19 vaccination program](#) (for WA health providers)
- Australian Government – [COVID-19 vaccines hub](#)
- Australian Government – COVID-19 vaccine [fact sheets and guides](#)
- Keeping Culture Safe and Strong Aboriginal - COVID-19 [vaccination resources](#)
- Australian Government – COVID-19 vaccination [Easy Read](#) resources
- ATAGI [infographic](#) on COVID-19 vaccines and doses recommended for each age and population group

## Directions updates

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

### New Directions

- [COVID Transition \(Testing and Isolation\) Directions \(No 11\)](#)
- [Cruise Vessels Directions \(No 2\)](#)

## Updated factsheets

- [COVID-19 Visitor Guideline for WA Public Hospital and Health Services Version 10.4](#)
- [Release of Cases from Isolation: Information for Clinicians](#) – Updated 20 April 2022
- [WA COVID-19 Healthcare Worker Furloughing Guidelines Version 3](#)
- [COVID-19 Guidelines for Healthcare Practices in the Community Version 2](#)
- [Residential Strata Properties FAQs Version 2](#)
- [Influenza and COVID-19 FAQs](#)
- [COVID-19 Information for People who are Immunocompromised](#) – Updated 22 April 2022
- [COVID-19 Guidelines for Maternity Services Version 4.1](#)
- [COVID-19 Guidelines for Renal Dialysis Version 2.4](#)
- [How do I isolate safely?](#) – Updated 11 April 2022

## Testing

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

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 **OR** a positive or inconclusive rapid antigen test result.

## Testing locations

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

## Reporting

Notify suspected COVID-19 cases by completing the notification form [online](#) or by printing the notification form (standard notifiable infectious diseases process should be followed).

COVID-19 positive rapid antigen test (RAT) results **must** be registered on the HealthyWA [website](#) or by phoning 13 COVID (13 268 43).

## Series of National Guidelines (SoNG)

The [latest](#) iteration was released on 22 March 2022.

## Business and industry

### Resources for more information

- [WA Department of Health](#) and [HealthyWA](#)
- [WA Department of Health Media releases](#)
- [Australian Department of Health](#)
- [Advice for the public \(WHO\)](#)
- [Advice in other languages](#) and [Translated Resources](#)
- [Advice and resources for Aboriginal people](#)
- [Covid Clinic walkthrough](#) – in multiple languages
- [Contact registers](#) information
- [SafeWA user guide](#)
- [ServiceWA user guide](#)
- [Mandatory vaccination](#) Directions and supporting documents
- Mandatory vaccination general and industry-specific [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- Proof of vaccination [Directions, information](#) and [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [COVID-19 in the workplace](#) – Information for employers and employees
- [Posters, signage and resources](#) for businesses

## 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: 13 268 43 (13 COVID)
- COVID-19 Travel Restrictions Exemption Application: Visit the [G2G PASS](#) website
- COVID-19 WA Police Line: 131 444 to report breaches of quarantine, business activities, border controls and other State of Emergency Directions

**Next advice** The Bulletin is issued weekly. Next issue: **4 May 2022**.

Last updated **26 April 2022**

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

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