



# PHEOC BULLETIN #66

**Wednesday 16 June 2021 14:00 Hours**

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

## COVID-19 case and vaccination numbers

- **Summary:** as of **Wednesday 16 June**, in Western Australia (WA), there have been:
  - **1,020** confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified
  - **92** historical cases of COVID-19 notified
  - **1,009** people recover from COVID-19
  - **1,247,137** 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](#). The advice on Controlled Border Controls – Victoria (**11 June 2021**) is available [here](#).

### Advice for travellers from Queensland

WA Health has issued advice for recently returned travellers from Queensland, after a woman who travelled from Melbourne via New South Wales tested positive to COVID-19.

Recent arrivals into WA from Queensland who have been to one of the listed exposure [sites](#) during the relevant times must:

- get a COVID-19 test within 48 hours
- self-quarantine for 14 days from date of exposure
- present for a day 11 COVID-19 test.

Travellers should continue to monitor the Queensland Government [site](#) for updated exposure sites.

The WA Health announcement is available [here](#).

### Advice for travellers from New South Wales or the Australian Capital Territory

WA's Chief Health Officer Dr Andrew Robertson said anyone who has recently arrived into WA from NSW or the ACT and has been to one of the listed exposure sites during the relevant times is required to present for 48-hour and 11-day testing and self-quarantine for 14 days. The announcement is available [here](#).

### Cautious approach being taken to ensure community safety

The Department of Health took a cautious approach to a previously confirmed case (1017) of COVID-19 who had completed quarantine at a State-run quarantine hotel. **The man has now been cleared and released from quarantine. All 94 close and casual contacts in WA have returned at least one negative test and will be tested again on Wednesday 16 June 2021.** The announcement is available [here](#).

The man did not have a variant of concern and was previously vaccinated against COVID-19. Potential exposure sites are listed on the [HealthyWA](#) website. Further details are available [here](#).

## **Advice for travellers from Victoria**

Victoria transitioned from a 'medium risk' state to a 'low risk' state under WA's controlled interstate border on 6.00pm, Friday 11 June, following the latest public health advice.

Under the low risk category, all travellers who have been in Victoria or have travelled through Victoria can enter WA subject to the following strict conditions.

### **All travellers must:**

- complete a G2G PASS declaration, stipulating they do not have any COVID-19 symptoms, and listing the jurisdictions visited by the traveller in the previous 14 days
- self-quarantine for 14 days in suitable premises
- present for a COVID-19 test on day 11.

### **Arrivals entering WA at Perth Airport must:**

- undergo a health screening and temperature test on arrival
- be prepared to take a COVID-19 test at the airport COVID clinic, if deemed necessary by a health clinician (voluntary asymptomatic testing available for all airport arrivals).

*(Note: all flights from Victoria must land at Perth airport and cannot fly directly to regional WA)*

### **Arrivals entering WA by land:**

- will be met at the border checkpoint for a health screening and will have their G2G PASS declaration checked before proceeding to a self-quarantine premise.

The WA Chief Health Officer continues to monitor and review his advice on border controls, should there be significant changes in the public health situation. The announcement is available [here](#).

## **Jurisdiction risk rating**

Victoria is now considered 'low risk'. All other jurisdictions, including New Zealand, are considered 'very low risk'. For more information on Western Australia's border arrangement, see the WA Government's controlled interstate border [webpage](#).

## **World Health Organization naming of variants**

World Health Organization (WHO) has assigned simple, easy to say and remember labels for key variants of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, using letters of the Greek alphabet.

WHO will assign labels for those variants that are designated as Variants of Interest or Variants of Concern by WHO. These will be posted on the [WHO website](#). These labels do not replace existing scientific names (e.g. those assigned by GISAID, Nextstrain and Pango), which convey important scientific information and will continue to be used in research.

Variants of Concern: Alpha is B.1.1.7 (United Kingdom Sept-2020), Beta is B.1.351 (South African May-2020), Gamma is P.1 (Brazil Nov-2020) and Delta is B.1.617.2 (India Oct-2020).

## **New Bill introduced to strengthen contact register integrity**

The State Government announced on 15 June that the Protection of Information (Entry Registration Information Relating to COVID-19 and Other Infectious Diseases) Bill 2021 will be introduced to strengthen the protection of information gathered for contact tracing. It introduces a comprehensive legislative framework to protect the information collected, and provides clarification to businesses and venues. The full statement is available [here](#).

## COVID-19 vaccination program

### Updated COVID-19 clinical guidance on vaccine intervals

The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) recently [updated](#) the Clinical guidance on COVID-19 vaccine in Australia in 2021. Part of this update amends the recommended minimum interval between COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines (including influenza vaccine) to 7 days. This interval can be shortened (including same day administration) in special circumstances.

### Pfizer for pregnant women

Pregnant women are now recommended to have the Pfizer vaccine. The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) and ATAGI advise no significant safety concerns have been identified through global surveillance data. Read the full [statement](#) from the Australian Government Department of Health.

### COVID-19 vaccination roll out to all people aged 30 and over

All Western Australians aged 30 years and over are encouraged to Roll up for WA and get vaccinated against COVID-19. People aged between 30 and 49 in Western Australia can get the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine at State-run clinics. All Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 16 and over are now eligible.

Appointments are still available for people in the Phase 1A and 1B cohorts including people who work in disability and aged care, and younger adults with a specified medical condition.

Adults aged 50 years and over can access the AstraZeneca vaccine with available clinics listed on the HealthyWA [website](#). Eligible people can book an appointment at both metropolitan and regional locations by visiting [Rollup for WA](#) or calling 13 COVID (13 268 43).

### Community clinics

[Claremont Showgrounds](#) community vaccination clinic operates seven days a week. The clinic has been scaled up to cope with the increased demand, with a new capacity of about 2,000 appointments each day. The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is now offered seven days per week, while the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine is also administered on Mondays through to Wednesdays.

[Joondalup and Kwinana](#) community vaccination clinics will also start to provide both types of COVID-19 vaccines on different days, from Monday 21 June, with capacity to administer 1,500 and 2,000 vaccines each day respectively.

[Redcliffe](#) community vaccination clinic will commence administering both vaccines from 28 June, offering 700 appointments a day.

### WA's first regional community clinic

The first regional State-run COVID-19 community vaccination clinic is now open in Bunbury with the capacity to offer more than 600 appointments each day. The Bunbury clinic is located at the Bunbury Home Maker Centre and is open 8.30am to 4pm. It will administer the Pfizer COVID vaccine on Tuesdays to Thursdays and the AstraZeneca appointments will be filled on Mondays and Fridays.

### Requests for alternative COVID-19 vaccine

WA Health has established a process to allow individuals over 50 years old, who meet the qualifying medical conditions, to [request](#) an alternative COVID-19 vaccine. Individuals will need a letter, in electronic format, from their GP or treating specialist outlining which of the criteria applies to them. Once this letter has been obtained, the request for alternative COVID-19 vaccination [form](#) for persons aged 50 years and over needs to be completed online.

## Statewide resources

Resources can be found on the [WA Government website](#) including a variety of new posters that promote Roll up for WA. The posters include stories from people who have received the COVID-19 vaccine and information about how to book an appointment, what to expect at the community vaccination clinic and where to find more information.

Check the [stakeholder kit](#) regularly for updates. If you would like to receive a Roll up for WA poster pack please send an email to [COVID19Vaccines@dpc.wa.gov.au](mailto:COVID19Vaccines@dpc.wa.gov.au) with:

- the best mailing address
- which posters you'd like or tell us a bit about your community, so we can make a selection
- where you plan to put up the 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:

[Chief Health Officer Approval to Request COVID-19 Testing on Persons who are Presenting to be Tested under the Presentation for Testing Directions \(No.25\)](#)

[Chief Health Officer – Presentation for Testing Directions \(No 25\) – Premises Approved for the Purposes of Paragraph 17\(b\)\(i\)](#)

[Aircraft from Restricted Locations Arrival Directions](#)

[Chief Health Officer Approval to Request COVID-19 Testing on Persons who are Presenting to be Tested under the Queensland Exposure Site Directions](#)

[Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions \(No 25\)](#)

[Presentation for Testing Directions \(No 25\)](#)

[Unofficial Consolidation of the Controlled Border for Western Australia Directions](#)

[Victoria \(May 2021 Outbreak Revocation\) Directions](#)

[Extension of Western Australia Declaration \(No.2\) of Public Health State of Emergency – 10 June 2021](#)

[Queensland Exposure Site Directions](#)

[New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory Exposure Site Directions](#)

[Transport and Accommodation Services \(Exposed Maritime Worker\) Directions](#)

[Exposed On-board Worker Directions](#)

[Maritime Crew Member Directions](#)

[Rig or Platform Crew Member Directions](#)

## Updated fact sheets

[Clinician Alert #59](#)

### Short stay accommodation

In circumstances where people are required to isolate or quarantine in short stay accommodation (as opposed to a State quarantine facility) the [Standard for non-SHICC hotels](#) providing accommodation for guests in quarantine or isolation provides the appropriate guidance on Infection, Protection and Control protocols for servicing and cleaning of these accommodation facilities.

## 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.

## 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 26 May 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.

## Business and industry

### Resources for more information

- Latest [Australian Health Protection Principal Committee \(AHPPC\) News](#)
- [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 22 June 2021**.

Last updated **16 June 2021**

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

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