



PHEOC BULLETIN #65

Tuesday 8 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 **Tuesday 8 June**, in Western Australia (WA), there have been:
 - **1,018** confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified
 - **91** historical cases of COVID-19 notified
 - **1,008** people recover from COVID-19
 - **1,218,539** 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 (27 May 2021) is available [here](#).

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

On 2 June 2021, WA Health issued updated advice for travellers who have recently returned from New South Wales (NSW) or the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) with a public health alert issued for parts of the state. NSW Health issued the alert after new COVID-19 exposure sites in NSW were linked to the Victorian outbreak.

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 is taking a cautious approach to a previously confirmed case of COVID 19. The case (1017) had completed quarantine at a State-run quarantine hotel. The man spent only a short time in the community, visited only a few places and wore a mask. He returned to hotel quarantine based on an abundance of caution. Contact tracing is underway, again as a precaution.

Previously all cases were cleared of their infection based on the national guidelines which does not always involve a test before completing their isolation. The man does 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 has transitioned from 'very low risk' to 'medium risk' under WA's controlled interstate border, effective from 10.00am, Thursday, 27 May 2021.

Travel from Victoria into WA will no longer be permitted, with exemptions for the following:

- certain senior Government officials

- certain active military personnel
- a member of the Commonwealth Parliament
- a person carrying out functions under a law of the Commonwealth
- a person responsible for transport freight or logistics
- anyone who is given approval by the State Emergency Coordinator or an authorised officer.

These people will be assessed on a case-by-case basis by WA. Exempt travellers arriving into WA from 10.00am Thursday, 27 May 2021 must:

- Get a COVID-19 test upon arrival into WA and on day 11.
- Self-quarantine in a suitable premises for 14 days.

Arrivals who have visited Victorian [exposure sites](#) during relevant times, irrespective of whether the exposure site is considered Tier 1 or Tier 2 by Victoria Health:

- Get tested immediately for COVID-19 and self-quarantine for 14 days from date of exposure.
- Get a COVID-19 test on day two and day 11 of your 14-day self-quarantine.
- Masks must be worn when leaving self-quarantine premises to present for testing.

For anyone who has come into contact with someone who recently arrived from Victoria, self-quarantine is not necessary and COVID-19 testing is only required if symptoms develop. The announcement is available [here](#).

Jurisdiction risk rating

Victoria is now considered 'medium 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.

These labels were chosen after wide consultation and a review of many potential naming systems. WHO convened an expert group of partners from around the world, including experts who are part of existing naming systems, nomenclature and virus taxonomic experts, researchers and national authorities. 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.

While they have their advantages, these scientific names can be difficult to say and recall and are prone to misreporting. As a result, people often resort to calling variants by the places where they are detected, which is stigmatizing and discriminatory. To avoid this and to simplify public communications, WHO encourages national authorities, media outlets and others to adopt these new labels.

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).

COVID-19 vaccination program

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 will be able to get the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine at State-run clinics from Thursday 10 June, with bookings opening today. 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. Adults aged 50 and over across both metropolitan and regional WA continue to be provided with a range of options to access the AstraZeneca vaccine, with available clinics listed on the [HealthyWA website](#). Eligible people can call 13COVID (13 26843) to book an appointment at both metropolitan and regional locations.

Please book by visiting [Rollup for WA](#) or calling 13 COVID (13 268 43)

Community clinics

Claremont [Showgrounds](#) community vaccination clinic operates seven days a week. It will be scaled up from Thursday 10 June to cope with the increased demand, with a new capacity of about 2,000 appointments each day. From Monday 14 June, the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine will be offered seven days per week, while the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine will also be 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 opening in Bunbury on Thursday 10 June 2021 with the capacity to offer more than 600 appointments each day. The Bunbury clinic is located at the Bunbury Home Maker Centre and will be open 8.30am to 4pm to 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.

ATAGI Update

ATAGI and THANZ have released a joint [statement](#) on Thrombosis with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS) and the use of COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca.

This advice highlights that the list of conditions for which Pfizer ([Comirnaty](#)) is the preferred vaccine has been expanded to include a history of: cerebral venous sinus thrombosis (CVST), heparin-induced thrombocytopenia (HIT), idiopathic splanchnic (mesenteric, portal and splenic) venous thrombosis and anti-phospholipid syndrome with thrombosis. A full list of the conditions that are not likely to increase the risk of TTS is provided in the joint [statement](#); people in these groups can receive the [AstraZeneca](#) vaccine.

The Australian Department of Health has released new talking points on the AstraZeneca vaccine for health professionals – [Talking to patients](#) about AstraZeneca vaccine.

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:

[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](#)
[Victorian Limited Self-Quarantine and Presentation for Testing \(May 2021 Outbreak\) Directions \(No 2\)](#)
[Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions \(No 24\)](#)
[Flight Crew Directions \(No 6\)](#)
[Revocation of Victorian \(May 2021 Outbreak\) Directions](#)
[Presentation for Testing Directions \(No 24\)](#)
[Victorian \(May 2021 Outbreak\) Recently Arrived Travellers Special Presentation for Testing and Isolation Directions](#)
[Victorian \(May 2021\) Outbreak Response Directions](#)
[Approval for Flight Crew under Victoria \(May 2021\) Outbreak Response Directions](#)
[Approval for Travellers under a specified arrangement pursuant to the Victoria \(May 2021\) Outbreak Response Directions](#)
[Quarantine Centre Workers \(Secondary Employment\) Directions](#)
[Victorian \(May 2021 Outbreak\) Release for Tier 3 Locations Directions](#)
[Victorian \(May 2021 Outbreak\) Directions for Recently Arrived Drivers and Flight Crew](#)

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.

health.wa.gov.au

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 15 June 2021**.

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

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