



# PHEOC BULLETIN #67

**Tuesday 22 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 22 June**, in Western Australia (WA), there have been:
  - **1,020** confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified
  - **95** historical cases of COVID-19 notified
  - **1,009** people recover from COVID-19
  - **1,270,194** 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

### Importance of maintaining focus on public health messages

Whilst WA will be moving to Phase 5 from Wednesday 23 June, WA remains susceptible to outbreaks of COVID-19 due to increased mixing and interaction with others. Maintaining hygiene standards and following COVID Safe practices, including physical distancing, good hygiene and staying home and getting tested when unwell, should continue to be encouraged to prevent the spread of disease, including other respiratory infections such as flu.

### Changes to legislative requirements for contact tracing data

In line with the passing of the Protection of Information (Entry Registration Information Relating to COVID-19 and Other Infectious Diseases) Bill 2021 through the legislative Assembly on 21 June 2021, the Contact Register Directions have been revoked and replaced with the [Contact Register Directions \(No 2\)](#).

### Chief Health Officer advice

The advice on the introduction of Phase 5 in Western Australia (18 June 2021) is available [here](#).

### Important update for recent travellers from Queensland to WA

Anyone who has recently arrived into WA from Queensland and has been to one of the listed exposure [sites](#) during the relevant times is required to get tested immediately, self-quarantine for 14 days, and get tested on Day11. Recently returned travellers from Queensland should continue to monitor the Queensland Health [site](#). The full media release can be found [here](#).

### Important update for recent travellers from New South Wales to WA

WA's Chief Health Officer (CHO) has provided updated advice on our controlled interstate border due to the evolving COVID-19 situation in New South Wales (NSW).

Effective from 1359 hours on 19 June 2021:

- all arrivals from NSW must get a COVID-19 test on arrival (or within 48 hours) and self-quarantine until they return a negative result - they must wear a mask when in transit to their premises or to get a COVID-19 test;

- anyone who has visited any of the exposure sites in NSW during the relevant times should self-quarantine for 14 days from their date of exposure and be tested immediately (within 48 hours) and on day 11.

Testing is available at Perth Airport domestic terminals for all NSW arrivals; arrivals can choose to go to other COVID public or private testing clinics.

Anyone who has arrived from NSW since June 11, 2021 should monitor their symptoms and get tested for COVID-19 if unwell. Arrivals into WA are asked to continue to monitor the NSW Health website for updated exposure locations.

Anyone who is unwell or experiencing symptoms should get tested for COVID-19 and self-quarantine until they return a negative test result.

The announcement is 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](#).

### **Safe and careful easing of remainder of COVID-19 capacity limits**

WA will safely transition to Phase 5 from Wednesday (June 23), ending the remainder of capacity and gathering limits for venues and events. The two square metre rule and the 75 per cent capacity limit for hospitality and entertainment venues have been removed. Major events of all kinds will be able to resume with no limits on size or crowd numbers. Maintaining good hygiene standards and

COVID-safe principles, along with mandatory contact registers, COVID Safety Plans and COVID Event Plans will continue to be required.

Phase 6 will include the removal of WA's controlled interstate border, and travel restrictions currently in place for some remote Aboriginal communities.

The full media release is [here](#).

**Covid Safety Plan** templates have been reviewed and will be published 23 June 2021 [here](#).

## COVID-19 vaccination program

### Updated ATAGI recommendations on the use of COVID-19 vaccine AstraZeneca

On the 17 June 2021 ATAGI released a [statement](#) recommending that:

- the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine (Comirnaty) is preferred over COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca from the age of 16 to under 60 years. This was based on recent data regarding thrombosis and thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS) cases in Australia and a reassessment of current age-specific risks and benefits of vaccination.
- The AstraZeneca vaccine can be used in adults aged under 60 years for whom Pfizer is not available, where the benefits are likely to outweigh the risks for that individual and the person has made an informed decision based on an understanding of the risks and benefits.
- People of any age without contraindications who have had their first dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine without any serious adverse events should receive the second dose.

### COVID-19 vaccination roll out

In line with the updated ATAGI advice the Premier and Minister for Health [announced](#) that people aged 50 to 59 years are able to get the Pfizer vaccine, through State-run clinics. Those aged 50 to 59 who are already booked in and due to receive their first dose of AstraZeneca will be contacted by WA Health to have their booking changed to a Pfizer booking. People aged 50 to 59 who have already had their first dose of AstraZeneca should keep their booking and continue to get their second dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine.

There are no changes to the 40 to 49-year-old eligibility under the WA rollout program.

People aged 30 to 39 who have made bookings at State-run clinics will have their bookings honoured. Bookings for this cohort have been extremely high and appointments are already booked out until August. People aged 30 to 39 who have not yet made a booking are encouraged to go to [Rollup for WA](#) and register their details. As soon as more Pfizer supply becomes available from the Commonwealth, they will be notified and able to book an appointment.

All Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 16 and over are 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 60 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).

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

The 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 [here](#).

### **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** community vaccination clinic administers AstraZeneca Thursday to Saturday and Pfizer Sunday to Wednesday with capacity to administer 1,500 appointments each day.

**Kwinana** community vaccination clinic-administers AstraZeneca Mondays and Fridays and Pfizer Tuesdays to Thursdays with capacity to administer 2,000 appointments each day.

**Redcliffe** community vaccination clinic will commence administering both vaccines from 28 June, offering 700 appointments a day.

**Bunbury** community vaccination 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 AstraZeneca on Mondays and Fridays, with capacity to offer more than 600 appointments each day.

### **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.

## **Trusted Vaccine information Sources**

Please visit the trusted sources below for more information on vaccines:

- **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](#)

## 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](#)

[Authorisation to require a person to keep contact information for a period longer than 28 days under the Contact Register Directions](#)

[Authorisation to approve COVID event plans under the Gatherings and Activities Directions \(No 2\)](#)

[Contact Register Directions \(No 2\)](#)

[Covid safe \(Phase 5\) Directions](#)

## Updated fact sheets

[Clinician Alert #59](#)

[Testing criteria for SARS-CoV-2 in Western Australia #30 \(PDF 220KB\)](#)

## 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 **16 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.

## 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](tel:1800313223) (Note: **NOT** for GP referred testing or private pathology clinic tests)
- COVID-19 WA Public Information Line: [132 6843 \(13 COVID\)](tel:1326843)
- COVID-19 Travel Restrictions Exemption Application: Visit the [G2G PASS](#) website
- COVID-19 WA Police Line: [131 444](tel:131444) 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 29 June 2021**.

Last updated **22 June 2021**

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

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