Government of Western Australia
Department of **Health**

PHEOC BULLETIN #55

Tuesday 30 March 2021 14:00 Hours

This bulletin has been authorised by the PHEOC Coordinator, Dr Clare Huppatz

COVID-19 Case numbers

- As of Tuesday 30 March, there have been 938 confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified in Western Australia (WA) and 60 historical cases. 918 people have recovered.
- To date a total of 941,359 COVID-19 tests have been conducted in WA.
- **WA:** Daily snapshot
- **National:** Current National Status
- **Worldwide**: WHO Situation Reports & WHO Dashboard

Living with COVID

WA Health advice for Queensland & New South Wales travelers

Anyone who has arrived in WA from Queensland and New South Wales who has visited any of the affected Queensland exposure sites and/or New South Wales exposure sites, during the relevant times, should:

- get tested immediately for COVID-19;
- quarantine at a suitable premises for 14 days from the date of attendance at the high-risk location; and
- get tested for COVID-19 on day 11.

Queensland transitioned from **'very low risk'** to **'low risk'** at 12.01am Saturday, **March 27**.

Queensland transitioned from **'low risk'** to **'medium risk'** at 12.01am Tuesday, **March 30**.

Under the 'medium risk' category, travel is not permitted into WA, unless you are an exempt traveler.

The exemption list is limited to:

- 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; and
- anyone who is given approval by State Emergency Coordinator or an authorised officer.
- compassionate reasons

Exempt travellers from Queensland arriving into WA from 12.01am Tuesday, 30 March 2021 must:

- self-quarantine in a suitable premise for 14 days;
- present for an initial COVID-19 test on arrival at Perth Airport;
- present for a COVID-19 test if any symptoms develop during quarantine;
- present for a COVID-19 test on day 11 after arrival in WA (if still in WA).

State-by-state risk rating

All other jurisdictions except Queensland are considered 'very low risk' and are permitted to enter WA without COVID-19 testing or self-quarantine requirements.

They are still, however, required to complete a G2G PASS declaration and undergo a health screening upon arrival into WA.

For more information, see the WA Government's controlled interstate border webpage.

COVID-19 Vaccination Program

Western Australia continues to roll out COVID-19 vaccinations, prioritising those who are at highest risk of contracting COVID-19. These eligible workers have been invited, via their employers, to book in for a COVID-19 vaccination:

- Phase 1A eligible populations who have been invited for a COVID-19 vaccination include quarantine and border workers, frontline health care workers.
- Other health care workers, and groups of critical and high risk workers including police, fire and emergency staff, have already received an invitation to be vaccinated.

The vaccination rollout is affected by the availability of both imported and locally manufactured vaccines, however as more doses become available newly eligible groups will receive updated information about where they can receive their vaccine as part of the overall phased plan coordinated by the Australian Government. From Monday 22 March, the below groups can access the COVID-19 vaccine via general practices, Aboriginal Controlled Community Health Services and GP-led respiratory clinics for people within Phase 1B:

- Adults aged 70 years and over
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged over 55
- Adults with an underlying medical condition, including those with a disability
- Other health care workers
- Critical and high risk workers

Within WA, a number of GP clinics are offering the COVID-19 vaccine to anyone currently eligible for a COVID-19 vaccine. If you have not received an invitation to be vaccinated via your employer, and believe you are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccination, please use the Australian Government's COVID-19 vaccine eligibility checker to check your eligibility and make an appointment or register your interest via the Australian Government's GP vaccination program.

If you employ staff in your business, you may be wondering about your and your employees' rights and responsibilities in relation to the vaccine. The Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) have published workplace information about the COVID-19 vaccine FAQs on their website. These FAQs provide general information only. It is important that businesses and employees seek appropriate advice about their specific circumstances.

For the most up-to date information on the COVID-19 Vaccination Program, please visit the trusted sources below:

- **HealthyWA** - COVID-19 Vaccine (for consumers) including new FAQs for the WA community about the COVID-19 vaccination program.
- **WA Health** - COVID-19 Vaccination Program (for health professionals) including targeted information for WA health providers and how to subscribe to the WA COVID-19 Vaccine Update. health.wa.gov.au
- **The Australian Government** - COVID-19 Vaccines hub including the latest news and information about the development, approval process and rollout plans for the COVID-19 vaccines.

- **The Australian Government** - [COVID-19 Vaccines hub](#) including the latest news and information about the development, approval process and rollout plans for the COVID-19 vaccines.
- **Eligibility checker:** https://covid-vaccine.healthdirect.gov.au/eligibility
- **Aged care toolkit:** https://www.health.gov.au/initiatives-and-programs/covid-19-vaccines/information-for-aged-care-providers-workers-and-residents-about-covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-vaccine-aged-care-readiness-toolkit
- **Translated resources:** https://www.health.gov.au/resources/translated

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:
[Controlled Border for Western Australia Amendment Directions (No. 19)](#)
[Presentation for Testing Directions (No. 20)](#)
[Queensland Limited Self-Quarantine and Presentation for Testing Directions (No. 2)](#)
[Queensland Outbreak Quarantine and Testing Directions (No. 2)](#)
[Specification of a High Risk Location Directions](#)
[Queensland Outbreak Response Directions (No. 3)](#)
[Specification Under Queensland Limited Self Quarantine and Presentation for Testing Directions (No. 2)](#)
[New South Wales Limited Quarantine and Presentation for Testing Directions (No2)](#)
[Approval for Flight Crew Pursuant to the Queensland Outbreak Response Directions (No. 3)](#)
[Approval for Travellers under a Specified Arrangement Pursuant to Queensland Outbreak Response Directions (No. 3)](#)
[Prohibition on the use of Nebuliser Machines Directions](#)

Updated fact sheets

[Clinician Alert #51](#)
[Testing Criteria for SARS-CoV-2 in WA #28](#)

Testing

General population [testing criteria](#)

Any person may be tested if they have any one of the following clinical criteria: fever (≥37.5^{0}C) OR history of fever (e.g. night sweats, chills), without a known source **OR** an acute respiratory infection (e.g. shortness of breath, cough, sore throat, runny nose) **OR** acute loss of smell or taste.

Testing locations

Testing locations are listed on [Healthy WA](#).

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 4 March 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 latest statement from AHPPC statement is:

- 3 February 2021 – Updated statement on minimising the potential risk of COVID-19 transmission in schools

Business and Industry

Resources for more information

- Latest Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) News
- WA Department of Health; 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 or complete the exemption application form
- 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 06 April 2021.

Last updated 30 March 2021

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

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