Coronavirus COVID-19 daily update

Print   Share

> This Chief Health Officer update is intended to provide clinicians and the Victorian public with information about the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Victoria as well as relevant public health response activities in Victoria. Chief Health Officer Alerts will continue to be issued when there are changes to the public health advice related to COVID-19.

14/04/2020

What's new?

Developments in the outbreak

- As of 14 April 2020, Victoria has 1291 total confirmed cases, an increase of 10 since yesterday. 40 people are in hospital, including 15 people in intensive care. 14 people have died. 122 cases have an unknown source of infection, an increase of 0 since yesterday. 1118 people have recovered.

- Of the total 1291 cases, there have been 1029 in metropolitan Melbourne and 236 in regional Victoria. A number of cases remain under investigation.

- The total number of cases in Australia is currently 6369. That is expected to increase significantly in coming weeks unless people stay at home.

- There have been 156 confirmed cases in healthcare workers, across at least 7 hospitals and 1 radiology clinic

- Up-to-date epidemiological data ⧉ is available on our website.

Current advice to clinicians

- Testing criteria has been expanded to include all people with consistent clinical symptoms.

This will assist in finding cases that are being transmitted in the community.

- Please note the clinical criteria have been narrowed due to removal of epidemiological criteria. Clinicians are advised to only test patients who meet the clinical testing criteria. There should be no exceptions.

- Revised testing criteria include:

  - Fever OR chills in the absence of an alternative diagnosis that explains the clinical presentation
    OR
    Acute respiratory infection that is characterised by cough, sore throat or shortness of breath.

  - Note: In addition, testing is recommended for people with new onset of other clinical symptoms consistent with COVID-19* AND who are close contacts of a confirmed case of COVID-19 or who have returned from overseas in the past 14 days.
    *headache, myalgia, runny or stuffy nose, anosmia, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea

- Doctors requesting COVID-19 testing are asked to ensure that a current contact phone number for the patient is included on all pathology request forms.

- Healthcare workers and other frontline employees will be able to have their test results returned faster. Specimens taken from health care workers should be marked:

  - URGENT- Health Care Worker

  - In the case of testing for return-to-work criteria for healthcare and aged care workers, mark with 'URGENT: HCW CLEARANCE TESTING, please notify result to DHHS'

  - Results should be copied to the DHHS COVID-19 Response and the HCW's treating physician.

- Please reinforce the advice to Victorians to stay home and stay safe.

- Look for signs of mental distress in your patients and encourage them to take a look at our coronavirus mental health webpage

- Be aware of the increased risk for family violence during this difficult time. Familarise yourself with the services available for your patients.

Key messages

- The rules are clear - Stay home. Protect the health system. Save lives.

- There are only four reasons to leave home:

  - shopping for what you need - food and essential supplies

  - medical, care or compassionate needs

  - exercise in compliance with the public gathering requirements

  - work and study if you can't work or learn remotely.

Current directions arising from the declared state of

emergency

The State of Emergency in Victoria has been extended until midnight 11 May 2020.

The current directions remain in place and include: staying at home, restrictions on particular activities, detention, restrictions on airports and cruise ships, aged care, hospitals and isolation for people diagnosed with COVID-19

More information viewed at the department's website. The site also contains a page of frequently asked questions providing further guidance on the directions.

More information

Clinical information

Health services and general practice - coronavirus disease (COVID-19)

Consumer information

About Coronavirus (COVID-19) - information for the general public

World Health Organization - health topic - Coronavirus ⇗

Smartraveller website ⇗

Contacts

Medical practitioners needing clinical information or to notify suspected or confirmed cases can contact the Department of Health and Human Services Communicable Diseases Section on 1300 651 160 (24 hours).

Subscribe now!

Keep informed of emergencies affecting the health sector and critical public health issues impacting your work.

Subscribe now ⇗ to information including Chief Health Officer updates and emergency advice from the Department of Health and Human Services.

Follow the Chief Health Officer on Twitter ⇗

Subscribe to the COVID-19 stakeholder newsletter ⇗

Was this page useful?

👍 Yes   👎 No

Back to top ⊙

Updated on 14/04/2020

About the site

Copyright

Disclaimer

Privacy statement

Accessibility

Sitemap

Our websites

Services ⬈

Service providers ⬈

Health.vic ⬈

HousingVic ⬈

Better Health Channel ⬈

Seniors Online ⬈

Funded Agency Channel ⬈

Connect with us

🐦 Twitter

▶ YouTube

f Facebook

Contact

Address: 50 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
3000

Phone: 1300 650 172

The department acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the Traditional Custodians of the land and acknowledges and pays respect to their Elders, past and present.

The department is committed to safe and inclusive work places, policies and services for people of LGBTIQ communities and their families.