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Coronavirus COVID-19 daily update

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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.

03/06/2020

What's new?

Developments in the outbreak

- Victoria's State of Emergency has been extended until 11.59pm on 21 June 2020.
- As of 3 June 2020, the total number of coronavirus (COVID-19) cases in Victoria is 1,670 which is an increase of seven since yesterday.
- Seven new cases have been reported. Six were detected in returned travellers in hotel quarantine and one is under investigation.
- 176 cases have been acquired in Victoria where the source of infection is unknown, an increase of seven since yesterday's report.
- Nine people are in hospital, including two people in intensive care. 19 people have died. 1,569 people have recovered.
- Of the total 1,670 cases, there have been 1,384 in metropolitan Melbourne and 234 in regional Victoria. A number of cases remain under investigation.
- There have been 185 confirmed cases in healthcare workers, no change since yesterday's report.
- More than 526,000 test results have been received by the department since 1 January 2020.

- Up-to-date [epidemiological data](#) is available on our website.
- See the [video message from the Chief Health Officer](#) reminding people not to delay their cancer screening, and to rebook appointments they may have cancelled due to coronavirus (COVID-19)

Current advice to clinicians

- Current processing time for COVID-19 tests is one to three days.
- People who have been tested at a metropolitan retail testing site can call the dedicated Onsite Doctor Results Hotline on (03) 8669 0255 if they have been waiting more than five days for results. This hotline will operate from Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm, until 5 June 2020.
- Practitioners are encouraged to test any patients who meet the clinical criteria below:
Fever OR chills in the absence of an alternative diagnosis that explains the clinical presentation*
OR
Acute respiratory infection (e.g. cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose or anosmia)

*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; who have returned from overseas in the past 14 days; or who are healthcare or aged care workers.*

**Clinical discretion applies including consideration of the potential for co-infection (e.g. concurrent infection with SARS-CoV-2 and influenza)*

***headache, myalgia, stuffy nose, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea.*

- If referring your patients for COVID-19 testing, a list of testing locations can be found on the [getting tested for coronavirus page](#).
- As the prevalence of COVID-19 remains low, practitioners are encouraged to consider testing for other infectious diseases as warranted by the patient's clinical presentation and history, including travel history. Test for influenza in patients presenting with compatible respiratory symptoms and request a stool culture in patients presenting with gastrointestinal symptoms.
- An [online form](#) is now available for travellers seeking to request a change in mandatory quarantine arrangements due to exceptional circumstances.
- The Victorian Government has amended the Safe Patient Care (Nurse to Patient and Midwife to Patient Ratios) Act. This will result in extra nurses and midwives across the Victorian healthcare system

Key messages for the community

- Victoria's State of Emergency has been extended to 21 June 2020, but some restrictions have been eased.
- As restrictions ease, it remains important that if you can work from home, you should do so.

- As we begin to settle into a new normal, our message is "stay safe". That means continuing to maintain physical distance from others, take appropriate hygiene precautions, avoid crowds, stay home and get tested if you're unwell.
- More information on current restrictions and how to stay safe can be viewed at [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) page](#).

More information

Clinical information

[Health services and general practice - coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\)](#)

Consumer information

[Victoria's restriction levels](#)

[World Health Organization - health topic - Coronavirus](#)

[Smartraveller website](#)

Contacts

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

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Updated on 03/06/2020

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Address: 50 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
3000

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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.



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