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 coronavirus (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 coronavirus (COVID-19).

08/08/2020

What's new?

- As of 8 August 2020, the total number of coronavirus (COVID-19) cases in Victoria is 14,283 with 466 new cases diagnosed since yesterday.

- Of the new cases, 24 are linked to outbreaks or complex cases and 442 are under investigation.

- There are 2,584 cases that may indicate community transmission, an increase of 130 since yesterday's report.

- 636 people are in hospital, including 44 patients in intensive care.

- Sadly, there have been 12 new deaths reported since yesterday. To date, 193 people have died from coronavirus (COVID-19) in Victoria.

- There are 7,808 cases currently active in Victoria. 6,066 people have recovered.

- More than 1,759,900 tests have been processed – an increase of approximately 29,000 since yesterday.

- Further details can be found in today's coronavirus (COVID-19) media release.

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

- The Victorian Government will pause all Category 3 and non-urgent Category 2 elective

surgery in regional Victoria following the decision to pause all Category 3 and non-urgent Category 2 elective surgery in metropolitan Melbourne.

- From Thursday 6 August access to childcare and kinder will only be available to permitted workers' children and vulnerable children. A new Access to Childcare Permit will be will required and will sit alongside the Permitted Worker Scheme.

State of Disaster

- Victoria entered a State of Disaster from 6pm on Sunday 2 August until Sunday 13 September. This will give police additional powers to make sure people are complying with public health directions.

- Melbourne moved to stage 4 restrictions from 6pm on Sunday 2 August 2020.

- A curfew is in place for Melbourne from 8pm to 5am. The only reason to leave home during these times will be work, medical care and caregiving.

- A fine of $4,957 can be issued to a person failing to self-isolate after testing positive to coronavirus (COVID-19) or who does not self-quarantine after being identified as a close contact.

- In line with the raft of changes made under stage 4 restrictions this week, people who have tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or are close contacts will no longer be able to leave their home for exercise.

- From 11:59pm on Wednesday 5 August 2020, employers that require their staff to attend a work site must issue a worker permit to each staff member to whom that applies. Information is available on our website.

- In Melbourne, shopping for essentials will be limited to one person per household per day. A 5km limit will apply.

- Regional Victoria including Mitchell Shire moved to stage 3 restrictions from 11.59pm on Wednesday 5 August 2020. There are now only four reasons to leave home; for food and supplies, medical care and caregiving, exercise and work or study, if you can't work or study from home.

- All Victorian students moved to remote learning from Wednesday 5 August 2020.

- All Victorians must now wear a face covering when leaving home. More information on face masks and coverings is available on our website.

Current advice to clinicians

- Practitioners should 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, anosmia or loss of smell or loss of taste)

  Note: In addition, testing is recommended for people with new onset of other clinical symptoms consistent with coronavirus (COVID-19)** AND who are close contacts of a

confirmed case of coronavirus (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 coronavirus (COVID-19) testing, a list of testing locations can be found on the getting tested for coronavirus page.

- The Department of Health and Human Services will continue distributing masks to eligible Victorians. General practices can place orders for these masks. More information is available on the reusable face masks page.

Key messages for the community

- Stay home and get tested if you have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) no matter how mild: including fever, chills, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose, loss of sense of smell or taste. Go home straight after your test and self-isolate while you wait for the results. Go to the DHHS testing map for locations.

- Wear a face mask or covering when you leave home, unless a lawful exception applies.

- This is a difficult and uncertain time for all so support is vital and available. For more information about managing stress and support options, call the Coronavirus Mental Wellbeing Support Services on 1800 512 348.

- For information on worker support payments, see Coronavirus (COVID-19) Test Isolation and Worker Support Payments.

- Check our website for information and advice about current restriction levels in place including where stage 4, stage 3 and stage 2 restricted areas are, as well as the updated directions.

- A factsheet has been created for the public on how to Reduce your risk of coronavirus (COVID-19), and has been translated into 49 languages.

- A video from the Chief Health Officer showing our community 'how to safely wear a mask' has been dubbed into a variety of languages for the public – you can find them here.

More information

Clinical information

Latest coronavirus (COVID-19) information for Victorian health services and general practice

Consumer information

Financial support – for coronavirus (COVID-19)

Translated resources in over 50 languages

[Victoria's current restrictions](#)

[Latest coronavirus information from the World Health Organization](#)

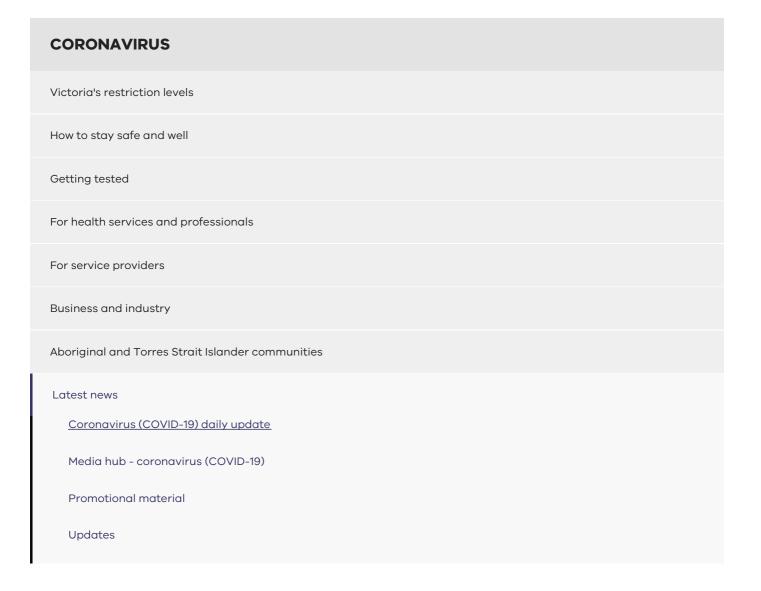[Latest travel advice from Smartraveller](#)

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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Contact

Address: 50 Lonsdale Street
Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
3000

Phone: 1300 650 172

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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.