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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 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).

5/09/2020

What's new?

- As of 5 September 2020, 76 new cases have been diagnosed since yesterday, with a total number of coronavirus (COVID-19) cases in Victoria is 19,479.
- The overall total has increased by 64 due to 12 cases being reclassified.
- Of the new cases, 22 are linked to outbreaks or complex cases, 54 are under investigation.
- Sadly, there have been 11 new deaths reported since yesterday. To date, 661 people have died from coronavirus (COVID-19) in Victoria.
- There are 4,370 cases that may indicate community transmission, an increase of one since yesterday.
- There are 1,956 cases currently active in Victoria. 16,784 people have recovered.
- 298 people are in hospital. This includes 21 patients in intensive care.
- A total of 2,372,112 test results have been received. This is an increase of 15,820 since yesterday.
- You can find further details in today's [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) media release](#).
- The DHHS website has full details in the [interactive daily report](#).
- [Q&A from CHO restrictions, quarantine and self-isolation](#) (Youtube video).

Current advice to clinicians

- A small number of cases of PIMS-TS - a novel post-infectious systemic hyperinflammatory syndrome - have been reported in children in Victoria. PIMS-TS occurs two to six weeks after infection with SARS-CoV-2. The initial infection may be asymptomatic. Advise paediatric and emergency staff to consider PIMS-TS in a child with fever, abdominal pain, rash and tachycardia. If you have a patient with PIMS-TS, contact the on-call paediatric infectious diseases service at the Royal Children's or Monash Children's hospitals. [More information.](#)
- Residential Aged Care Facilities without COVID cases in rural and regional areas in Victoria will have additional support from the Australian Defence Force as they visit these sites to help assess and improve infection control measures. They will co-ordinate these visits with aged care hub leads to gain awareness of regional/local issues and ensure contacts are appropriately prioritised.
- Notifications to the department of a confirmed diagnosis of coronavirus (COVID-19) can be done online. You can submit an [online form](#) to our public health team, rather than calling us, saving you time and resolving your case load more efficiently.
- [Personal protective equipment](#) and advice from the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Taskforce can be found in the [Guide to the conventional use of PPE \(Word\)](#) on our website.
- [How to manage clinical waste from coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) is now online.
- [Protecting our healthcare workers \(PDF\)](#) sets out the very latest in our understanding of coronavirus (COVID-19) and how it can spread within healthcare settings – both hospitals and aged care facilities. More information can be [found online](#).

Covid Testing Criteria

- 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, or loss or change in sense of smell or taste)

Note: testing is also recommended for people with new onset of other clinical symptoms consistent with coronavirus (COVID-19)** AND who are from the following cohorts: close contacts of a confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19); those who have returned from overseas in the past 14 days; or those who are healthcare or aged care workers. Testing is recommended for those cohorts with onset of other clinical symptoms**. Asymptomatic testing is not recommended at this stage except for targeted programs

**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](#).

Victoria's restriction levels

- Melbourne moved to [Stage 4 restrictions](#) on Sunday 2 August 2020 and regional Victoria moved to [Stage 3 restrictions](#) on 5 August 2020. The current State of Emergency and State of Disaster end Sunday 13 September.
- All Victorians must wear a face covering when leaving home. The DHHS website has more information on [face masks and coverings](#).
- The Victorian Government will release its roadmap for re-opening this Sunday 6 September 2020, to provide certainty and clarity to communities, tourism operators and businesses alike that restrictions will be eased at a safe pace – based on localised health advice for both Melbourne and regional Victoria.

Key messages for the community

- All Victorians, including those in regional locations are to get tested even with even the [mildest of symptoms](#).
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.
- Call the Coronavirus Mental Wellbeing Support Services on 1800 512 348 for information, advice and strategies to help you manage your wellbeing and mental health.
- Victorians can leave their home if they are not safe and seek help and support at an [Orange Door](#) or other family violence support service. If you or someone you know is at risk or experiencing family violence, call 000 in an emergency or safe steps 24/7 crisis service on 1800 015 188.
- The Partners in Wellbeing hotline (1300 375 330) is available for referrals from people who identify as LGBTIQ, multicultural, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people, veterans and people experiencing homelessness.

Clinical information

[Latest coronavirus \(COVID-19\) information for Victorian health services and general practice.](#)

[Latest information about providing immunisation services during Coronavirus Pandemic.](#)

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

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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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