

ALERT FOR CLINICIANS

New online form for notifiable infectious diseases and related conditions

KEY POINTS

- An **online notification form** for clinicians to report notifiable infectious diseases and related conditions to the WA Department of Health is now available.
- While existing methods of notification (mail and fax) remain available, clinicians are encouraged to notify electronically.
- Clinicians must continue to notify **urgently** notifiable infectious diseases (only) by **phone** to their local public health unit, or the on-call public health physician via 1800 434 122 if after-hours.

New online notification form

- A new online form for reporting notifiable infectious diseases is now live: https://redcap.link/wa-disease-notification-form.
- The online notification form aims to reduce administrative burden, streamline workflows, and minimise data processing delays, allowing for a timely public health response.
- The online form replaces the need to fax or mail the completed form.
- When submitting the form, an option is available to download a copy of the completed form in PDF format for record-keeping purposes.
- The form is hosted on a secure data collection platform that complies with data protection and security protocols.
- For assistance with using the online notification form or to report any issues, please contact EpiSurvDiseaseControl@health.wa.gov.au or visit the Frequently Asked Questions.

Legal requirement to notify

- Under the <u>Public Health Act 2016</u> and <u>Public Health Regulations 2017</u>, medical and nurse practitioners are legally required to notify the WA Health Department if they suspect a patient has a notifiable infectious disease or related condition.
- See Notification of infectious diseases and related conditions for further information.
- Demographic and disease specific information is collected for all notifiable infectious diseases, with additional details requested for certain diseases such as infectious syphilis and gonorrhoea.

Staying informed about notifiable infectious diseases

- Data on notifiable infectious diseases and related conditions is available via the Department of Health Notifiable infectious disease dashboard.
- This interactive dashboard provides up-to-date communicable disease data, including number and rate of notifiable diseases by year, age, sex, Aboriginal status and public health region.
- Clinicians are encouraged to subscribe to Infectious Diseases Health Alerts via the <u>CDCD</u> <u>subscription</u> page.
- Subscribers are asked to provide their occupation and organisation (or clinic name) to remain on the list, as membership is reviewed periodically.
- Printable PDF versions of the alerts are also available on the Infectious Diseases Health Alerts page.
- Clinicians are encouraged to share Infectious Diseases Health Alerts within their unit or practice to ensure all team members stay informed about notifiable infectious diseases in WA.

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See Infectious Diseases Health Alerts at https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/F I/Health-alerts-infectious-diseases

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